

RG104 Entry 216

Volume 2, with Index

March 13, 1835 – December 29, 1836

Letters sent and received by the Secretary of the Treasury relating to the Branch Mints.

Documents are in rough chronological order but are not separated by Branch Mint facility or subject. Blank sheets and routine endorsements have been omitted. Endorsements and addenda sheets have been digitized as they appear in the originals.

RG 104 RECORDS OF THE BUREAU OF
THE MINT

Records of the Office of the
Secretary of the Treasury

LETTERS RECEIVED FROM BRANCH
MINTS ("V" SERIES), 1834-1873

Vol. 02 of 22

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" " \$6000

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Branch Mint at N. Orleans & also in the gold region of the South Cb

" "

W

X

Y

Z

Washington March 13 - '35

Dear Sir -

I rec^d your letter of this
morning advising me of the candi-
-datorial appointment of Mr. Hutchinson
& of your having forwarded the
communication to Mr. Garrison -

This entirely accords with my views -

I called to see Mr. Russell & found
he had told by the back stage for
New York - I have taken the liberty
of informing him, that if so desired
he can either write or see the Director
of the ~~Mint~~ ^{to desire} - as he proposed ^{to desire} to
have your authority to confer with
Dr. Moore, I suppose, this will be suffi-
-cient to enable him to communicate

any more he might have an idea
subject -

I am very

truly yours

R. W. Saunders

Wm. Linn Woodbury

R. W. W.

2.

Washington March 10 - 1883

Sir -

I beg leave to recommend

J. M. Hetchumson Esq. of Charlotte
Mecklenburg County N. C. - as a suitable
person as Commissioner for the
purchase of a site & the superintendence
= ~~direct~~ ^{direction of} the buildings for the Branch
Mint in N. Carolina -

I take the liberty of suggesting the pro-
prietorship of sending ^{an} ~~some~~ ^{one} to confer
with Dr. Moore as to the description of
buildings, machinery &c. - and for
this purpose I recommend W. J. L.
Bevell, who unites much practical &
scientific ^{information} upon the subject & who
might if deemed advisable be con-
= sulted with Mr. Hetchumson on his return
as he is deeply interested in the

As Mr. Rippe is now in Washington on
his way to New York, he would I have no
doubt be willing to engage in the business
on terms entirely satisfactory to the
Department -

I am very

respectfully

Yr. Obt. Servt.

R. M. Jackson

Wm. L. Woodbury

H. H. H.

3.
Raleigh March 30 - '35

Dear Sir -

I return the copy of Mr. Birkbeck
letter - as I rec^d. the original the morn^g.
I left Washington - I still think you
might derive some parts from
Mr. B. that would be useful - as such
I must again recommend him
to your favourable notice -
I will have a meeting of the Directors
of the Bank in the course of the
week & advise you of the result -

Very respectfully
Yr. Obedt. Servt.

R. McFadden

Ans - Louis Woodberry

R. H. H.

W. H. K.

March 28. 1835.
Hon. Dr. M. Danvers

—11—

the subject in
change - and with
indefinitely as
well as the other
will be happy
to perfect by his
suggestions &
advice on any
point connected
with the new
branches of the
Trust - W. H. K.
Refer it then to
your wisdom -

Adopt, to them,
Benevolent people
of his letter of the
copy enclosed -
addressed to Sam-
uelson -

Both have
been forwarded to
the Agents of the
Trust, with long

44. 3. L. 3 -

Charlotte. N. C. ^{11.} May 6th 1835.

The Hon^{ble} Levi Woodbury:

Sir

I acknowledge the receipt of your address appointing me a Commissioner to superintend the erection of a Branch of the Mint in this place, under the late Act of Congress. Owing to some peculiar circumstances I did not receive the appointment until perhaps the 12th of April last. A few days afterwards I saw Major Connor, and handed him my note to you declining an acceptance of the appointment, with a request that he would forward it to the Department.

I regret that it is not within my power to accept, but I feel gratified at this expression of confidence and will duly appreciate it. Sir, independent of my professional business, & my County have claims on me now, (in a political point of view) which I can not abandon.

Our County Elections for Members of the General
Assembly, and for Congress, are coming on this
Summer. I must be again a Candidate for the
State Legislature. I could not accept any
appointment now, without endangering the
Democratic party to which I have always belonged.
Should my Note addressed to you through Gen.
Connor, not have reached you - I must decline
an acceptance of the appointment.

I am with sentiments of respect
Your most Obedient humble Servant,

Wm. H. Chisom

N.B. I presume the Honble Henry W. Connor
had recommended, (from Consultation with
him) Major Samuel M. Comb of our
Town, for the appointment. who is well
qualified for the appointment - and
who is a strong friend of the present
Administration.

J. M. Fitchison

May 5. 1835

J. Hutchinson

declines office Director of Mont.

McK

Let Mr. McK

Henry McK

be applied to

to return

as it is the

letter

W.

Secretary of the Academy
Washington City

Send to Mr. Girden
the letter of
request hints
Call - on
W

Charlotte Mecklenburg County N. Carolina

Hon^d Sir

I received your letter dated the 12th instant informing me that by the direction of the President of the United States you have appointed me a Commissioner to superintend the erection of a Branch of the Mint at Charlotte Mecklenburg County North Carolina authorized by an Act of Congress.

I accept the appointment and tender through you my thanks to the President for the confidence reposed in me and will use my best endeavours to give satisfaction by promptly and faithfully attending to the instructions I may receive. And the Act of Congress establishing the Mint at Charlotte N.C.

I will correspond with Dr. Samuel Moore of Philadelphia as directed

And as soon as I receive from him a plan
of the building & I will forward on to you
the Plan of the building & And such suitable
sites within the Town of Charlotte with the prices
the can be purchased & together with the
local situation of each site wheather near or
at a distance from the business part of the
Town for your consideration & selection.

I am with the highest respect &c

Sam^l H. Gould

Hon. Levi Woodbury

May 26. 1835.

W. C. K.
Saml. McComb

Accepts - Superintendent
of Mint - N. C.



RECEIVED



Hon Levi Woodbury

Secretary of the Treasury
City of Washington
(closed)

M. 75 May 26
N. C.

City of Washington July 15th 1835.

Hon^d Sir

Dr Samuel Moore Director of the
Mint Philadelphia has furnished me with a
plan of the branch Mint at Charlotte North
Carolina the estimate of the building is thirty
three thousand dollars leaving a balance
of seventeen thousand dollars of the sum
appropriated by Congress for the branch Mint
at Charlotte, this balance of seventeen thousand
dollars Dr Moore thinks will be sufficient
to purchase the Machinery, site for the
building and all other expenses in transpor-
ting the machinery &c. The site selected
is in the West end of the Town of Charlotte
lying high and in a healthy part of the
Town and can be purchased for the
sum of fifteen hundred Dollars, this

site contains near four acres of land ^{or} ₂₀₀ ^{on} ₁₀₀
square, fronting on one of the main streets
being three hundred ninety six feet front
and the same back. This site is nearly one
half lower in price than any I had the
offer of, and as near the Court House
and business part of the Town, as any
I could procure at any reasonable price.

I am with the highest regard and
esteem yours &c.

Hon Levi Woodbury

Samuel W. Court

Secretary of the Treasury
City of Washington D.C.

Coinnefrome Branch
Miss Charlotte S. P.

City of Washington.

Brown's Hotel July 15th 1835.

Hon^{ble} Sir

At the suggestion and request of Dr
Sam^l Croon director of the Mint, I have visited the
City of Philadelphia, taken a view of the Mint
etc. and have now in my possession a plan
for a mint in Charlotte N. Carolina which
plan was furnished me by Dr. Croon; I
wish to know at what time it would be
convenient for you to attend in your office
so that I can have a personal interview with
you on this business; I am with sentiments
of the highest regard and esteem &c.

Sam^l A. Combs

Hon Levi Woodbury

Secretary of the Treasury

Charlotte N.C. ⁸ September 4 1835

Dear Sir I received a few days
ago a letter from the Director of the Mint Phila^a
furnishing me with a detailed Specification of
the building for the Branch Mint in Charlotte.
and have advertised again for proposals which
you will find in the Journal inlaid, also
a printed circular, for persons who may wish
to undertake the erection of the building. There
was some mistake in my other advertisement in
consequence of my not having been furnished with
the details of the building, I requested the Director
of the Mint to furnish me with details of the
building, which was not done until a few days
ago, there are a number of persons wishing
to undertake the erection of the building and
if ^{the} Council I have now taken meets the approbation
of the Department, I expect to close the contracts
for the whole of the building by the 15th October next
the time mentioned in my advertisement, I have
agreed for the site for the building, I have entered
into a bond with the persons agreed with subject
to your approval, I have forwarded the documents

to Gen^l Rich Landrum, who informed me he had
handed it over to Mr. Diverow who would furnish
me with deeds, ~~legally~~ & properly drawn, so that
I can have them executed by the persons I made
the agreement with; I hope this course will meet
the approval of the Department, I have no doubt
of the title of the property being good; my design
and wish is give full satisfaction to the Department
in what I have been intrusted with and to do
myself credit in having the building completed
in the best manner, with the least expense that
is possible; to I have
I am with sentiments of the highest
regard and esteem yours &c

Sam^l Ch^l Landrum

Hon. Levi Woodbury
Secretary of the
Treasury

Commissioner Branch Street
Charlotte S. Carolina

I have all
the land which will be

Received of
John D. Wood

proper measure will be adopted to
assemble - The money wanted to pay for
the committee are a note for one of
the amount - 40

9

Tortoraugh Sept 12 - 35

Dear Sir -

I have rec^d - your two last

favours at this place, where I am

at present attending Court -

I am pleased to see the strong

expression of opinion at the

North against the conduct of the

abolitionists - There has been nothing

as some excitement as this subject

will always produce - but the opposition

- there in the end will be disappointed

- and in their calculations of turning

to their advantage - so far from

increasing the prejudice against

the North - it is likely to take a

different course -

I recd from a new advertisement of
Messrs. McCulloch he has been unable
to contract for the Buildings & -
I am very much interested in such matters
I feel certain he will be unable to do so -
We found it necessary in the rebuilding
of our State House. to do so under the
superintendence of an Agent - and
but the other day, Commissioners for
the building of a Court House, in
Harrisburg advised against contracting -
The fact is we have not the mechanics
of competent skill & capital -

I should advise at once that Messrs. McCulloch
be instructed to engage competent hands
to get out the stone - all the materials
& get every thing in readiness for the
break work in the Spring -

This course may cost more - but in the
end, it will be attended with less trouble
& the work be better & more certainly &
expedient done - I feel confident it is
the only plan of ensuring the certain
completion of the work - This would
require a more detailed plan of the
building by the architect - if not the
employment of some skilled workmen
to superintend the work - I have seen so
many difficulties attending the execution
of work on contract with us - that I
am decidedly opposed to the plan -
all of which is respectfully suggested
for your consideration -

Very respectfully

Wm. Lewis Broadbent

R. M. Saunders

10/11/11

10.

Charlotte S.C. September 21. 1835

Hon^d Sir

I received a letter from the Director of the Mint D. Mc Patterson requesting me to forward to you the paper printed in Charlotte containing my advertisement for proposals for the erection of the Branch Mint in Charlotte S.C.; also one of my circulars also six of my circulars with the request that you forward them on to him I sent by mail some time since the Charlotte paper & one of my circulars to you, which I hope you have received, I now inclose to you six circulars which you will please forward on to D. Patterson & also a letter.

I am with sentiments of the
highest regard & esteem &c

J. M. C. Combs

Hon Levi Woodbury

Secretary of the Treasury

Commissioner Branch
Mint Charlotte S.C

Attended to this
W

11
Raleigh Sep: 25 - 35

Sir -

I have rec^d yours of the 22nd -
informing me of your instructions
to Mr. McCaleb - I am glad you
gave your instructions in such
a way as to give another oppor-
-tunity to the agent to see if he can
obtain a contract on such terms
as shall be deemed advantageous -
as I learn from two or three respectable
-ble mechanics of this place that
they have it in contemplation
to go up to see if they can under-
-take the I still doubt the practica-
-bility of contracting for the entire
work -

Yours very respectfully
Wm. Lewis Woodberry & R. M. Green

12.
Charlotte N Carolina September 30. 1855.

Honored Sir.

I received on yesterday your letter dated the 22nd instant, and can inform you that I could have closed the contract for the entire building of the Branch Mint in Charlotte on the 1st instant at several thousand dollars less than the estimates made by the architect, who furnished the plan of the building; and would have done so had it not been for Dr. Rich Patterson director of the Mint, directing me to advertise again for proposals. I expected from his letter to me, that you had instructed him to do so, was the reason why I did not close the contract, there were several applicants for to get the contract, & I expect by the 15th of next month there will be more perhaps still lower than the one on the 1st instant, who proposed to complete the whole of the building at thirty thousand dollars, I have known doubtless but that I can close the contract for the whole or part of the building by the 15th next month as may be thought best, much lower than it could be

by hiring workmen by the job however on
this statement to you if you think it best,
for me to hire workmen by the job & go on
with the building in this way I will do so, whe-
-lding myself ready at all times to obey any
instructions you may please to give me

I am with sentiments of the highest
Respect & esteem yours &c.

Sam^l Th. Lomb

Hon Levi Woodbury
Secretary of the Treasury.

Commissioner of the Branch
Mint Charlotte N.C.

P.S. I received a letter from Gen^l H. de Launders
on yesterday inclosing deeds for the lots purchased
from Carson and Smith for the site for Mint
These gentlemen are absent at the North, but I
expect they will return in a few weeks when
I will get them to execute the deeds for site. And
inform you of their being executed, the form of
my circulars one of which I sent to you is word
for word as furnished me by the Director of the
Mint D. H. Patterson.

J. H. C.

Adze-craft of wood
him by all means

to build by continued if
it can be done

reasonably - & to
expedite the business

part as the public
interests will permit

W

Sept 30. 1835.
J. M^c Combs

Branch Mint at Charlotte, North Carolina.

TO CONTRACTORS.

The undersigned, as Commissioner in behalf of the United States, will receive Proposals until the 15th day of *October* next, for the erection of a building in the town of Charlotte, intended for a **BRANCH MINT**, of the following description, viz:

The plan of the building consists of a front of 135 feet by 33 feet 6 inches, with a projecting building in the rear of the centre, 53 feet in length by 35 in breadth. The elevation of the building consists of two stories, resting on a sub-basement of 5 feet in height, above the

Doorways.

Doorways, in passages and halls, and all communicating with rooms, to be four feet in width, by seven feet six inches in height. They are to be plain jam-cased,

ground. The pr
in height. These
The whole to be

The foundation
below the surface
to the height of
four feet from the
to be of stone-rul
the interior walls

The sub-basem
range-work, in co
bed, and from fou
table course to be
the face of the wa
on the front and
building in the rea
foot in height fro
ject three inches f
windows of the ba
and three feet in
contain iron wind
four inches apart.

The principal s
es in thickness, bu
ried up of that th
from whence the
spring. The rise
their thickness nin
corner to corner,
round the angle of
ed up level with t
the floors are to b
inches thick, upon

The windows o
frames, four feet in
of the best heart pi
four lights in heig
The sills and head
the whole finished

The walls of the
ches in thickness,
building, to receive
be kept sufficientl
allow of a brick c
story is not to be
or pine girders and
by twelve inches at
The ceiling joist to
across the piazzas
piece laid on the c
to be sheathed with
ness, well nailed in
placed at a greater
whole is to be cover

The windows of t
by four feet in heig
resembling those o
be four lights in wi
14 inches each, of t
be of stone, as here

The floors of all
of the stories, are
flooring boards.

M 82 on 6
M 82 on 6

Sept 1. 1835

ground. The principal and second story each 16 feet in height. These dimensions are from floor to floor.—The whole to be covered with a zinc roof.

Foundations.

The foundations are to be laid at the depth of six feet below the surface, and carried up three feet in thickness to the height of the basement story arches, which rise four feet from the groined corners. The foundations are to be of stone-rubble work for all the exterior walls; the interior walls of brick and 18 inches in thickness.

Sub-Basement.

The sub-basement or water table course, to be of range-work, in courses of one foot in thickness on the bed, and from four to six feet in length. This water-table course to be washed back at least four inches from the face of the wall of the principal story, and to extend on the front and ends as far back as the Piazzas. The building in the rear is to have one course, extending one foot in height from the surface of the earth, and to project three inches from the face of the brick work. The windows of the basement story to be four feet in breadth, and three feet in height, from the surface and sills; to contain iron window bars one inch square, placed at four inches apart.

Principal Story.

The principal story walls are to be one foot ten inches in thickness, built of good hard burnt brick, and carried up of that thickness to the height of twelve feet, from whence the arches of the principal story are to spring. The rise of these arches to be four feet, and their thickness nine inches, containing bars of iron from corner to corner, in the centre of all the walls, passing round the angle of the groins. The spandrels to be filled up level with the crowns of the arches, over which the floors are to be laid, with boards of heart pine, 1½ inches thick, upon joists of three by six inches.

The windows of this story are to be with revealed frames, four feet in width by seven feet in height, made of the best heart pine. The sash four lights in width by four lights in height, with glass of 11 by 20 inches.—The sills and heads of the windows to be of stone, and the whole finished with inside shutters.

Second Story.

The walls of the second story are to be eighteen inches in thickness, and carried up to the square of the building, to receive the rafters of the roof, which are to be kept sufficiently back from the face of the wall, to allow of a brick cornice all round the building. This story is not to be arched, but roofed with good cypress or pine girders and rafters; the latter to be at least four by twelve inches at the heel, and nine inches at the head. The ceiling joist to be three by twelve inches, to project across the piazzas in the rear, and to rest upon a string piece laid on the columns of the piazzas. The roof is to be sheathed with good pine boards, one inch in thickness, well nailed into the rafters, which are not to be placed at a greater distance apart than two feet; and the whole is to be covered with zinc.

The windows of this story are to be four feet in breadth by four feet in height, made of the same materials, and resembling those of the principal story. The sash to be four lights in width by three lights in height, 11 by 14 inches each, of the best glass. The heads and sills to be of stone, as heretofore described in the lower story.

The floors of all the rooms, halls, and piazzas of each of the stories, are to be laid with the best heart pine flooring boards.

with a two men bead on the corner, to receive the plastering, which is to form an architrave surrounding the doorways. The doors are to be two inches in thickness, pannelled with styles of six inches, and rails of ten inches in breadth. They are to be furnished with the best mortice locks and butt hinges.

The doors of all the vaults, and fire-proof closets, are to be double, and let into a stone sill and bead, well clamped into the walls. The dimensions of these doors to be two feet eight inches in width, by six feet six inches in height, plainly pannelled in wrought iron, ¾ of an inch in thickness.

Columns of the Piazzas.

The columns of the piazzas of each of the stories, are to be of cast iron, with caps and bases; their height, of course, to correspond with the elevation of each of the stories.

Steps and Portico.

The steps, and portico cheek-blocks are to be of stone, and the portico of wood.

Gutters and Conductors.

The eave and valley-gutters to be of zinc, two feet ten inches in width, the eave pipes of lead, the conductors of tin, four inches in diameter.

Plastering.

The whole of the interior of the building is to be plastered with three coats, with plain cornices at the ceilings of the principal and attic stories of the front building. The ceilings of the piazzas of each story to be plastered with three coats of plain plaster.

Rough Casting.

The whole of the exterior of the building is to be rough cast with good clean sand, washed and mixed with the best lime. The color of the rough casting to correspond with the color of the stone of the basement story.

Painting and Glazing.

All the wood work, as well as the iron, is to be painted with three coats of the best white lead, and all the sash well bedded in putty.

The scaffolding and hoisting machinery are to be found by the contractor, and no charges is to be made for jobbing in finally completing the work in every particular, according to the plans and elevations furnished for the building.

The whole of the workmanship is to be done in the most substantial manner, and of the best materials, and in accordance with the designs and delineations referred to below, and to be completed within a period not exceeding 14½ months, from the time of the acceptance of the proposals being communicated to the party whose offer shall have been preferred. Every person making proposals will specify the time within which he will contract to execute the work.

Bonds with sureties, satisfactory to the Commissioner, will be required for the fulfilment of the contract in all particulars.

Payments will be made by the Commissioner, on behalf of the United States, on account of materials delivered, and work executed, in the proportion of three-fourths of the estimated value thereof. The balance to be paid when the work shall have been completed.

The requisite designs and elevations of the building, with a delineation of the several stories, may be seen at the Mint in Philadelphia, and at Charlotte, in the hands of the Commissioner.

The proposals are to be sealed, and directed to the undersigned, at Charlotte, North Carolina.

SAM'L. McCOMB,

Commissioner of the Branch Mint at Charlotte.

Sept. 1. 1835.

Contract for building Branch of the Mint at New Orleans,
dated 22 August 1835. of John Mitchell & Benjamin
J. Fox - to be completed ready for delivery on or before
the 15 May 1836 - but should the weather be such as to
impede the working on the said Building, during its
progress, and the said Commissioners (Martin Gordon) should
be satisfied that the weather was the cause of the said
Building not being finished & delivered at the time
aforesaid, then the said time is extended for the space
of 60 days after the 15 May 1836, with like penalty
of \$200. per day, for every day thereafter for the
now completion & delivery of the said Buildings.
Consideration \$182,000. WBT.

Contract of Benjamin Fox, with Ignatius A. Fox,
Compt. &c - dated 27 September 1835 - to build a branch of the
U.S. Mint, at Dahlonega, Georgia, - to be completely
finished in all its parts on or before the 22 March 1837 -
allowed a further time, in case of accident - stormy weather -
or other unavoidable delay, not exceeding 2 months -
Consideration - \$33,450. WBT.

Charlotte N.C. ¹⁵ October 16. 1835.

Honored Sir

I have closed the contract for the building the Branch Mint in Charlotte N.C. at the sum of Twenty Nine Thousand eight hundred and dollars.

The undertakers are Mr. Reuben Perry and Mr. Thomas P. Ligon of Raleigh N.C. Carolina they were recommended to be first rate workmen & able to comply with any contract that they might make, by Gen. Wm. Saunders and Col. P. White of Raleigh N.C.

The Gentlemen who purchased the site for branch Mint from me ready to make deeds, the amount of purchase of site is fifteen hundred dollars you will please inform me how and where the can be paid, the wish to have the amount due them.

You will please inform me in what way I am to receive funds to pay off the contracts for the building of Mint, as it becomes due.

Hon. Levi Woodbury

Secretary of the Treasury

Yours with the highest regard &
Esteem Saml. Ch. Combs

Commissioner for the Mint
Charlotte N.C. Carolina

P.S. You will please to forward on to Dr
Rack Patterson the letter directed to him
Yours &c. L. C.

Yours &c L. C.

Oct 22^d / 1835

Saml W. Condit, Comr. &c
Charlotte S.C. Mint

asking money to pay for the
p't of the Mint —

\$1600 sent —

Hon Levi Woodbury

Secretary of the Treasury
City of Washington

Send him a receipt for
the cost of the site
given him; that
on his requisition, as
money may be needed
to meet the contingent
expenses will be paid
on the M. C. Bk.

State Bank of N.C. at Raleigh

M. 31. Oct 22
Jacobs.

C09 Charlotte S. Carolina ^{16.} Decm. 23. 1835.

Sir

Messrs Perry & Ligon the Gentlemen who
has undertaken the erection of the Branch Mint
at Charlotte have given Bond & security for
the performance of the work, and have
commenced the quarrying of the rock and
furnishing lumber &c.

They will need funds for the purpose
of paying off bills of lumber &c as delivered. You
will please forward me a warrant for Two
Thousand Dollars, which will answer at this
time I do not expect I will call on you for
more than Two Thousand Dollars ^{at any one time only} from time
to time as needed until the Building
is completed I will place the funds as I
receive them in the Bank in Charlotte and
pay it out to them according to contract
viz In proportion to three fourths of the value
of Materials delivered & work done

Hon Levi Woodbury
Secretary of the
Treasury.

I remain with regard and
esteem your obedt &c
John H. Comb Comptroller
Branch Mint Charlotte N.C.

Anthony
Charlotte & Co January 13th 1836.

Sir.

I wrote to you last month requesting of you to furnish me Two thousand dollars for the purpose of complying with the contract I made in behalf of the U States with Messrs Perry and Legon the Gentlemen who has undertaken the building of the Branch church, having received no answer to my letter I am fearful it has not reached you or if it has it is overlooked in the hurry of business. The corner stone of the edifice was laid on the 8th instant, in the presence of a large assembly of people from all quarters of the County, the Gentlemen who has undertaken the erection of the building are collecting materials & and want funds, I have furnished them as yet out of my private funds, your attention to the above request will be thankfully acknowledged by

Your old servant &c

For Levi Woodbury

Secretary of the Treasury

Samuel Cornwell

Commissioner of the Branch
Church. Charlotte & Co.

Charlotte S. Carolina

May 25. 1836.

Sir

I enclose under cover to you a letter to Dr. Mc Patterson Director of the Mint on business relative to the Mint Building in Charlotte which you will please forward on to him we are progressing with the building here we hope by the 1.st of January next we will have the work completed or so near that the Machinery can be put up what work has been done is done in the best manner & I venture to say will bear the inspection of the best judges of work.

I am yours most obedt &c

Sam^l T. Cornish

Hon Live Woodbury

Secretary of the Treasury

Commissioner M^t Mint

Charlotte S.C.

CA 8 Charlotte N.C. Sept^r 9th 1836

Sir

You will please forward to me your
Warrant for two Thousand dollars, the contractors
are progressing as well as could be expected
with the erection of the building for B.^d Mint
the weather has been very unfavourable for
carrying on the work owing to the unusual
quantity of rain that has fallen this season
and still continues to rain. The ^{walls of} center
building is nearly finished the ^{walls of} wings &
rear building I think will be completed
by the 1st or middle of December & I think
by the 1st of December the roof will be on
the Doves ~~mark~~ chimney pears & are
all ready as soon as the walls are finished
& covered in; I think all the building
will be completed by the 1st of January
with the exception of the plastering the

inside & rough casting the out sides of
the building And wheather it would answer
to plaster & rough cast so late in the season
it is for you to say, I am of the opinion
it would not do so well as the walls of the
building will not be thoroughly dry
untill next spring, without an unusual
favourable winter & to put on the rough
casting & plastering on a wall not
thoroughly dry & in frosty weather I think
it would not stand so well; you will
please to reflect on this and give me
instructions how to act.

I am with the highest regard
And esteem your obt. &c

Hon Levi Woodbury
Secretary of the Treasury
— " —

Sam^l M^r Combs
Commissioner Branch Mint
Charlotte S^c Carolina

Sep: 20th: 1836

Sam^l McComb

Onnapoos Branch of the
Abolition

asking a warrant for
\$2.00

Set.

20th sent the warrant

M 267. Sept 20
Jacob

Charlotte N. Carolina ²⁰ November 3 1836

Sir

I received your letter dated the 3rd of October last, and have the honor to make the following report of the progress of the building for Branch Mint in Charlotte South Carolina under my superintendence for the year ending the 31st day of ~~October~~ 1836.

The foundations of the building was commenced early last spring also the making of the Bricks &c. The entire walls of the building are completed and it is expected and no doubt it will be roofed by the 1st of December. All the zinc for roof, iron doors for vaults, locks, hinges, &c. are purchased and ready for building also all the doors sash flooring plank and chimney pieces are made ready for putting up and so soon as the roof is finished, the contractors will make more rapid progress toward completing the building.

I have thought it best not to have the rough casting and plastering don until early next spring say the 1st of April the walls will be then perfectly dry and the freezing weather over, this course I believe to be the best to pursue for the durability of the work, for if the plastering is put on in freezing weather the plastering would most likely crack and fall off in a short time, in the mean time lime &c. will be procured to commence as soon as the weather breaks in the spring.

During the whole of the time the bricks were making the weather was uncommonly wet and unfavourable for carrying on the work, but notwithstanding the quantity

of bricks necessary for the building was made and of good
quality, hard and well burnt. Had it not been for the un-
favourable weather the Contractors would have had the
building more forward than it is but as the progress of the
work of the building ^{is not as forward as it would have been if the weather permitted} as it now stands; I think the build-
-ing will be completed by the 1st of June next and made
-every put up ready for coming operations; Sooner than
the 1st of June next I think it cannot be all completed;
without hurrying and slighting the work, as yet the work
is well done and will bear the inspections of the best judges
of work, I trust and hope when all the work is completed I
that the building will be finished in a state that will
give satisfaction and strictly in the order & manner
given in the plan furnished &c.

I beg leave to suggest the necessity and propriety of
inclosing the square on which the building for Hints stands
with suitable railing of iron and setting the square
with young trees suitable for shade and ornament;
2 Also a small building for a meat-house and a small
privy house; bricks can now be had for the purpose
of erecting these buildings; On the square stands a good
grain building weatherboarded and covered 27 by
60. But two stories high this building was on the square
when purchased with a little repair and some small
alterations, this building can be made to answer the
purpose of stabling grainery carriage house &c.
which will add greatly to the convenience of the Director
& other officers of the mint. It will also be necessary to level
and graduate a small part of the ground in the rear
of the building, all of which can be completed for

An additional appropriation of Ten Thousand
dollars \$10,000. And if appropriated by Congress early
in the Session the work can be completed and
delivered early in the Spring or by the time the
principal building is finished.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

Your most obedt servant

To Hon Levi Woodbury,

Secretary of the Treasury.

Sam^l McKim, Comm^r
Prin^l & Agent Charleston S.C.

647
Charlotte S. Co. ²¹ November 15th 1836.

Sir

You will please forward to me your warrant for six thousand dollars \$6000. by the time your warrant reaches me the building will be roofed in; four thousand dollars of the sum asked for is to pay the brick masons & layers the other two to pay the Contractors as needed on the work progresses. The brick work was let out by the Contractors Messrs Perry & Dixon to Mr. Lehitene who asks for payment I think the work done towards the building & materials on hand will warrant me in advancing the sum asked for I intend the work shall be well done & the materials to be of the best quality and will be careful not to pay out more than I am justified in doing.

I am your obed^t servant &c

Sam^l H. Combs

To
Hon Levi Woodbury,
Secretary of the Treasury

Comptroller of the Branch
Mint. Charlotte S. Co

added to this
W

Warrant sent -
Nov 21st 1836,

Sir

22.
Cornington, Newton County, Georgia.

April 4th 1835

I received, yesterday, your letter of the 13th March, informing me that you had by the direction of the President of the United States appointed me "a Commissioner to superintend the erection of a branch of the Mint at Dahlonega in Georgia," and shall proceed immediately to discharge the duties devolving on me, so far as I have learned them from your instructions, and from a perusal of the act enclosed in your letter; there are some matters however, in relation to which, I must request more explicit information than I can gain from either, which you will allow me to state, and request your further instructions on them as early as possible. 1st Is Mr Moore authorized to invite Architects to offer plans for the buildings, & pay for them, and must I rely on him alone in this matter? or is it my duty also to seek for suitable plans, & pay the Architects who may draft them? 2^d In selecting the site "at, or near Dahlonega" is it intended that I shall act on my own discretion, in determining what quantity of land

should be occupied by the site chosen? In
reporting to the Department, I can only present
for its selection, the sites most eligible, in my
judgement, & state the terms on which they may
be obtained, but in ascertaining those terms from
the proprietors, it is necessary that I should
be able to say how many acres are wanted.
300 & it intended that I should let out the
contracts for erecting the buildings, after the
Department shall have selected the plan and
site from among those presented, if it is,
I should desire permission to invite the attention
of charter-builders from distant places, & to
leave in sufficient time to enable them to
make proposals before the contracts are con-
cluded - There are very few architects or master builders
in the upper parts of Georgia, who unite the requi-
-site degrees of skill, capital and honesty, for an
undertaking of this sort, - be pleased to address
me hereafter in "Athens, Georgia"

I am very respectfully
Your obt Serv^t
Honble Levi Woodbury
Ignatius A. Few

In reply to his cousin
Telfer him, that he & Dent. Moore having
agreed on a plan for the building
a drawing of it can be ^{probably} now
currently made at Philadelphia.
As to the site after he ascertains
arranges with Dent. Moore the plan
of the building & the quantity of
land needed for ^{the site}, accommodating
the business of the branch - he
will then send to the Dept.
the plan agreed - & the description

April 4. 1855.

MCK
Signature of John
De Bow. Sent in ga

of the different sites of their
prizes - with his own
opinions on them -

This subject will then decide
on the plan of

if he will then be
what plan to

what site to purchase - I have
what to advertise for

the building for
mail

demorable that a body of persons
attention should be given to expedite
this business as the nature of the
can well permit -

Public Service

1/2

The Honble Levi Woodbury
Secretary of the Treasury U.S.

Washington City



F. 7 April 12
Abraham

Sir

Athens, Georgia, May 23rd 1835

In accordance with your instructions, I addressed a letter to Dr Moore Director of the Mint, on the 6th of April, requesting him to furnish me with a plan and elevations of such buildings as would be suitable for the Branch Mint contemplated to be established at Dahlonega in this State, to this letter I received an answer dated the 10th of April, in which Dr Moore promised to transmit the plan, and estimates of the cost of the Machinery & his opinion as to the most suitable material for constructing the edifice; that letter reached this place on the 25th of April, and I remained here waiting for the plans until the 6th May, believing that it was best to have the plans, before I examined the sites for building, as it would be difficult otherwise to judge of their suitability, being disappointed however in my expectation of receiving the plans from Dr Moore, I went to Dahlonega on the 8th Inst, and after a thorough examination, arrived at the results which you will find stated in the accompanying document marked (A) I returned to this place on the 13th Instant hoping to find the desired communication from Dr Moore in the Post Office here, in this expectation I was again disappointed, and up to this hour have not heard from him. I am utterly unable to account for this delay, as Dr Moore in his answer to my first letter promised to use all

convenient despatch in forwarding the plans and estimates, I must suppose that his communication has miscarried, not being able to conceive any other sufficient reason why they should not have reached me before. I wrote to him again yesterday requesting him to give immediate attention to the business. I regret this delay especially because I find that those who are concerned in mining operations near Dolhoneya, are sustaining a loss of from 6 to 8 per cent in exchanging their gold for current money, which falls especially on those who have lent capital employed in the business, and they are already disposed to believe that the measures adopted for the purpose of carrying the law establishing the mint, into effect, are unnecessarily tedious, and that a longer time, than probably will be found necessary, will elapse before the business of coinage can commence. I have endeavoured as far as possible to remove these impressions, and have assured them that no time will be lost in commencing the erection of the building, and I would here beg leave to suggest the propriety of commencing the operation of coinage as soon as those parts of the building or buildings which may be the necessary for that purpose can be fitted up, without waiting for the entire completion of the buildings which may be required for all the purposes of the Mint.

I have thought it best to make this report without waiting longer for the plans from Dr Moore, as soon as they may be received I will transmit

them to you and shall then request you to give me specific instructions as to my farther proceedings in this business, in the mean time if you think proper you can make your election between the titles offered, and authorize me to make the purchase and procure the titles. Allow me here to say that I have endeavoured to act on the suggestions in your last letter and have given "a pressing attention to expedite this business," I do not know that I have lost one hour, that could have been employed in any proper attention to this business, since I received the first notice of my appointment as a Commissioner to superintend it.

I have the honor to be very respectfully
Your Obedt Servt

Hon^{ble} Levi Woodbury

Ignatius A. Few

P. S.

Monday Morning May 25th 1835

In a postscript which I have this morning annexed to the communication marked (A) you will perceive that Mr Ropes has failed to comply with a written engagement which I have mentioned in the body of that paper (A), but it must be remembered that his engagement was only a pledge to use all proper efforts to procure a power of Attorney there spoken of, and not a penal bond, or legal covenant, which I had no power to ask, & he certainly would not have given.

Ignatius A. Few

2

Request facilities to
prepare a blank
and for the site.

Then enclose it to
agent & request him
to buy if he can obtain
at \$100 or under. ~~the~~
with you, under the 10th
of the month, according

-if not that, the next
year through the list.

Can agree with pro-
-by to the sample
quantity - fairly consider-
to have more will let
him know early -

I have written to them,
more or to the place -
under the 10th -

Letter

W. H. D.

1

Write to the agent
of the next, stating

my wish for a copy of his
plans & estimate for the
building at D - as the

agent had not at the last
admission made there -

At the same time the
building can be desired
at D - -

There would land
would be covered for
the site - that can
early reply - if -

under the 10th -

3

had with communicate
further with him and

if we no effort to have
the work in a rapid in

program to completion
as the nature of the

case of the public interest
will permit -

the amount

needed for the survey for will
be paid - of the money

provided for the state year

as the contract is complete
of the land provided -

at the place -
at the place -

at the place -

May 23. 1853
June 2 - 733 - W. H. D.

Description of the site selected for the Branch Mint near the Town of Dahlonega, Lumpkin County, Georgia.

The Town of Dahlonega is, as you will perceive from the accompanying plat, located on a tract of forty acres of land, that being the size of the original survey in the Gold region of Georgia, the streets running diagonally across the tract, and lying on the North Eastern declivities of a small, isolated Mountain; these declivities break off in knobs, and ravines, on, and among which, the lots of the Town are laid off. The lots are very small, those nearest the Court House square presenting but a few feet in front, & those farthest off containing (I think) less than one fourth of an acre. The whole Town is embraced in a quadrangle whose lines are only one fourth of a mile in length, it seems to me therefore, obvious, that a site for the Mint should not be sought in the Town; An elevated ridge commences abruptly, on the lot, or tract of land contiguous to the western side of the Town, ^{lot 928} and runs through its North Western corner, until it enters the Tract No 931 on the North side of the Town, where it turns and runs nearly North until it is intersected by a ravine near the North line of that Tract, an elevated Peak lies immediately on the North line, and is separated from a plateau on the adjoining lot No 984 by a deep dell; On the last mentioned lot ^{lot} No 984 an Eminence commences abruptly, pointing West and running nearly South East, which shelters the Town and overlooks it on that side. The Tract on which the Town stands shelters down on the eastward side to the lot or Tract No 985

The southern half of which, presents a platform or table land very level, with a good soil, and on the south eastern corner a little eminence which descend to a rivulet on the south East, but the whole of this platform is many feet lower than any part of the Town (except the deep ravines, which run through it.) The square or tract on the south East (No 986) is still lower than the one last-mentioned, and several rivulets (one of which rises in the Town) run off to the East through this & the adjoining tract, from the bank of one of these rivulets, a ridge rises with a gentle ascent on the lot No 949 running from East to West, immediately touching the Town lots, overlooking and sheltering the Town on the South side, and in the north western corner of the Tract rising to an elevation which furnishes a commanding prospect over the Town at its foot, and bounded only by the Mountains stretching circularly from the East, by the North, to the West, distant from ten to twenty miles; a deep valley, in which rises a rivulet running West, separates this from the Ridge first mentioned on lot No 928, lot No 929 has an eminence with a sufficient area for building, and is by far the most commanding elevation near the Town of Dahlonega, but the title is litigated, and a safe purchase could not be made until the action which is now pending shall have been decided; it has been sold twice under execution, against the Grantee, both the purchasers hold Sheriff's title, and even if the two consolidated were valid (which is doubtful) they could not be obtained without paying twice the actual value of the tract, for which there is no sufficient reason in my judgment.

This tract is claimed by Messrs Terrs & Graham, and a Mr Humphries, respectively. Lot No 951 lying on the north side of the Town of Dahlonega and joining it, belongs to a Mr Casidy residing in the City of Savannah. This lot furnishes three sites suitable for the branch street, which are represented on the Plat of the Town & adjoining Tracts marked (B) and also more in detail, in the enlarged diagrams ~~on~~ the paper marked (C). I caused the area of these sites, to be measured and their bearings taken, by a Surveyor whose Plat, are those referred to. These sites are in my opinion preferable to any others, which lie near the Town, ~~and~~ which can be obtained, and they stand in order of preference as follows. Site marked (B) is the first in order, it occupies the summit of ^{the} ridge running from South to North on the west side of the Town, overlooks the Town and the valley stretching to the East, and has a fine view of the Mountains lying East, North & West. The surface is level, it is easily accessible, would furnish a fine point of view from the Town or any of the adjacent hills, it is on what is considered the healthful side of the Town, and 258, where Wells of good water may be easily obtained, and the ridge itself is considered to be the boundary of the vein of Gold on the west - it will be liable to one inconvenience, namely, it will be exposed to the North, North-east, Northern, & Western winds, on the two first of which are exceedingly cold in the winter, and the last, the quarter from whence the tornadoes of the Spring and Summer usually come. It is as you will perceive by looking at the Diagram (B) on paper (C), distant only 258 feet from the Town line, at its nearest point. Site marked (C) in paper (B) will be next in order of preference, and for some reasons perhaps should be first - it lies imme-

W. H. May 1850.

immediately at the foot of the Ridge on which (B) is situated or rather on a Platform which makes out Eastward from the Hill, but above its base. The Area is larger than any one examined (save that marked (F)) it lies some distance below the Summit of the Hills and would be completely protected by them from all winds, except those from the South East (which are rare) it would be finely received by those Hills when seen from any part of the Town, or any of the Roads leading to it, and it is not above every part of the Town except a small part of the North West corner and a few points on the Southern side; it is very conveniently situated in reference to it, being contiguous to that part which affords the most valuable lots, and where the population is, and must remain most dense, and respectable. and its nearest point only 165 feet from the outer line of lots. as you will perceive on looking at Diagram (C) on paper (C) - Site marked (A) on paper B. & C. is third in order, it has most of the advantages proposed by (B) save that the Area is not so large, nor the surface as level, it is farther removed from the Town, nearer the abrupt point which terminates the ridge on the North, and more exposed to the North & North Western winds, & buildings erected on it. could not present a front as advantageously to the Town as either B or C. These all lie on a Tract as before stated belonging to Mr Capidy, who I could not see without visiting Saranah (which would have occasioned considerable loss of time) and he had no Agent authorized legally to sell any part of his lot, but two respectable gentlemen

one C - H. J. - Moore

who had acted as his agent felt themselves authorized to say that if any part of his lot should answer the purpose, the Government may have ten acres wherever the Commissioner may select them for \$300, and one of them has given me written instrument to that effect, in which he engages to procure a full power to make good title to the Government whenever he shall be thereto required. I have believed that where the lots may be obtained at low prices, or they may here, that at least ten acres should be secured for the use of the Mission. I consider \$300 for ten acres on this tract a very moderate price and recommend that it may be purchased, and that one of the three sites described be chosen, taking them in the order in which I have given them viz B. C. A. If either of these sites should be chosen, it will be proper to remember however, that the direction for its purchase must be conditionally given, for I have no legal claim on the owner to make good the engagement of his agents, ~~and~~ am I ascertain that his title is perfectly unexceptionable, he is not the Grantee, but the purchaser of the Tract, he is also, birth an Alien; all these matters must be examined into before the Land should be purchased, yet I believe his title will be found to be unexceptionable, and that he will fulfil the engagement of his friend (Mr Perpe) it will still I think be proper that you should conditionally select between the remaining three sites, while I present you, and the next in order of Preference in my judgement, will be the site marked (C) in papers (B) and (D). This is part of the Tract no 949 belonging to Mr Morley Esq, it lies on the Ridge extending East & West.

indicated by the dotted line in paper (B) surrounding the site
 marked B, and is a most commanding situation, overlooking as
 heretofore stated the whole Town, and the country East, North and
 West between it and the mountains, and the Southern boundary
 of the Town lot touches immediately on it. It has some improve-
 ments on ^{it} north, I suppose, five or six hundred dollars, the area is
 narrow on the top of the eminence, but perhaps sufficiently
 broad to contain all the buildings which may be needed.
 It has a well of excellent water now in use, and the buildings
 on it might probably be applied to valuable purposes, for some
 of the offices required. The proprietor offers the whole Tract con-
 taining about thirty seven acres, including the improvements, for
 \$1500, or if he is permitted to remove the buildings, for \$1250
 (not allowing the full value for the buildings as they stand, of course)
 or Ten acres including the site, and the buildings, for \$1050-
 or Ten acres including the site, if he removes the buildings, for \$800-
 these prices to any private purchaser would be very low. The
 Tract is very heavily timbered, and would furnish abundance
 of fuel for the use of the Mint, the soil is fertile, and it is ab-
 even said to be a valuable Gold lot, from the site it declines, by
 gradually to the South & on that side is protected from the North
 & North Western wind, & would afford ^{fine} ~~dear~~ situations for gardens, attached
 to the residences of the officers of the Mint, if located on the lot
 belonging to it. The price & eligibility, all considered, places this lot
 in my estimation in the fourth degree in point of preference.
 There are two disadvantages attaching to it, which should be consid-
 ered, the Town lot, come up too near to the site and might very rec-

materially impair the effect of the building, & subject it perhaps to more serious injury by rearing houses, standing diagonally to the front of the mud, and within but a few feet of it. It also lies in a quarter of the Town where the surface is very much broken & which will always probably contain (as it now does) the habitations, principally, of the indigent, and the profligate. I have the owner's written engagement to sell on the terms stated, and his title will be indisputable. The next in order of preference will be the site marked (D) on papers (B.) and (E.) This tract containing forty acres, lies laterally on the west of the Town, and has on it the site marked (D) a very elevated point, the area of which is barely sufficient to contain the buildings, (and I fear not sufficient) it terminates almost precipitously on the south west, and the sides are equally steep save the entrance from the Town which is a narrow isthmus, only a few feet broad. It overlooks the Town and the tract is very heavily timbered and would ^{furnish} a large supply of fuel for many years. A very fine fountain of water rises out of the North-Western side of the hill, and not far below its summit, from the abundance and quality of the water this spring is greatly prized by the inhabitants of Sahilonegas, and especially because the springs on the eastern side of the Town are supposed to have some mineral impregnations which vitiate the water. This tract (No 928) is owned by a Mr Sipeny, who was absent, & not expected to return in three or four weeks, but several of his friends speak very confidently for him, in affirming that he will let the government have the whole Tract for \$300, it having cost him at Sheriff's sale \$150 very recently, \$300 will be a very moderate price, and from the

abundance of fuel. ~~and~~ ³³ and the quantity, excellence and convenience
of the water it furnishes, I believe it would be advisable to purchase
it, even if one of the sites on Rapidus lot (No 951) should be preferred
(as I think one of them should) - it joins the last ~~mentioned~~ lot corner-wise.
as you will perceive - The last site examined, is that marked
(F) on paper (B) it is the south-eastern corner of Lot No 985
and belongs to Genl Fields, who offers ten acres, in that corner
for \$200, this is certainly the most liberal offer made through
me to the Government. The site is a beautiful one, but for its
relative position to the Town, it lies altogether below it, and
eastward from it, on a side where there would be some reason
to apprehend disease, all the lands contiguous to it on that
side, are marked for Gold, and large and deep pits are left
exposed to be filled with rain water, and putrify, generating
miasmata, the fertile source of the endemic fevers of the
South. I have now gone through with the site examined and
presented to you for selection, one lying on the North East, which
I spoke of in the commencement, ^(Lot No 984) would furnish a very
eligible site, but it belongs to a Company, who value it at a
high price as a gold mine, and they had no agent in Sahlonega.
I had strong fears that suitable materials for the erection of
the buildings could not be obtained near Sahlonega, it was
said, (and I so believed, judging from what I saw) that the earth
was not suitable for making bricks, and that there were
no quarries of granite, freestone or other ~~stone~~ suitable
for building to be found near the Town, after a careful
examination however, this difficulty I find does not
exist. The northern side of lot No 947 descends precipitously from
the top of a small mountain and from the summit to its
base, immense masses of granite, project from its sides, and

and the rock from its situation ~~could~~ be easily quarried, and by an easy, and cheap contrivance, might be readily transported to either of the sites, which may be selected. It is just half a mile from the northern line of said lot (partially represented on paper marked B)) to the south western corner of the Town, doubtless whoever contracts for the erection of the building may purchase this quarry, for a moderate price, if proper means are used. A gentleman came on from Tennessee to Dahlonega, intending to propose for the contract, if the building are of brick, he seems to be thoroughly acquainted with the making & laying of bricks, and at my instance examined the land around Dahlonega, and informed me, that the alluvial banks of a large creek, (Cane Creek) which runs about one and a half miles south and west from the Town, furnishes a good earth for making bricks, as he had ever worked anywhere. - Good Lime is burned near Gainesville about twenty five miles south east of Dahlonega, and is furnished at the kiln, slacked, for 20 cents per bushel, or unslacked at 35 cents per bushel, and it is probably that bed of Marble or blue compact Limestone may be found within ten or fifteen miles of Dahlonega, where Lime might be burnt & the cost of that article materially diminished. I will now present a condensed view of the sites, showing my preference & the price of each.

- | | | |
|--|-------|-----------------------|
| 1 st Capidip lot containing ten acres, marked (B) - | \$500 | } all on Tract No 951 |
| 2 nd Ditto - - - - - ditto - marked (C) - | \$500 | |
| 3 rd Ditto - - - - - ditto - marked (A) - | \$500 | |

- 4th Morley's tract No 949 containing 37 acres with improvements {
- The site marked (E) on paper (B) - price - \$1500
- Or if Ten acres including the site & improvements is preferred - \$1050
- Or 37 acres without improvements - \$1250
- Or 10 acres including site, without improvements - \$800
- 5th Sipeny's Tract No 928, forty acres (D) - \$300
- 6th Field's lot of ten acres, marked (F) on lot No 985 - \$200

thing loc
stands
fourth
& the elec
tion, between
his proposals,
should be
taken in
the order stated

And lastly my opinion that if either of Casiday's lots is purchased that Sipeny's should be bought ^{not necessarily, but they would add to their value greatly} also. I have been very minute in my descriptions, because as you had (in my judgement very properly too) reserved to yourself the final selection, it was necessary, (to enable you to make this intelligently,) to give you all the information I could obtain concerning the relative advantages & disadvantages of each. I have done this faithfully I believe, & it only remains to say that much caution must be used in securing good title to the land, and to request that you will cause blank forms of the deed conveying the land to the government to be transmitted to me when you have determined on the site you will prefer. I found it necessary to employ a surveyor to run the lines, & take the bearings of the sites, & I suppose that I shall be authorized to pay his fee, out of the Appropriation you will please inform me concerning this - I must either have done it myself, (and did not think it a part of my duty,) or have employed a surveyor to do it.

Very Respectfully Yours Obedt

Hon^{ble} Levi Woodbury
May 23rd 1835

Ignatius A. Laro

37 Acres with improvements
 (B) - price - \$1300
 improvements is preferred \$1050
 \$1250
 improvements - \$800
 Acres (D) - \$300
 F on lot no 985 - \$200

this lot
 should
 fourth
 of the title
 show, between
 his proposals,
 should be
 taken in
 the order taken

either of Capideg's lots is purchased
 only, but if we had paid to their value greatly
 I have been very minute
 as you had (in my judgement
 myself the final selection, it was
 this intelligently,) to give you
 concerning the relative advantages
 done this faithfully, I believe,
 such caution must be used
 and to request that you will
 surveying the lands to the government
 you have determined on the site
 company to employ a surveyor
 arings of the site, &c and support
 pay his fee, out of the Appropriation
 in this - I must either have done it
 of my duty) or have employed
 Very Respectfully Yours Obedient

Ignatius A. Lewis

Whilst waiting for
 came down from Mr
 me a letter he had
 the owner of lot 957, in
 ten acres of his lot \$500 -
 to Savannah, for the purpose
 may be enabled to offer the
 \$500. he may fail in obtaining
 will justify him in taking \$500.
 opinion will be that - ten
 worth more for the purpose
 quantity on Morley's lot, for
 he asks \$800 and therefore, the
 by the order in which I have expressed
 be better to give even more
 lands, than to take Morley's

Honble Levi Woodbury

Representation of the
 Georgia, The Fig's
 E on 949 and Fig. F on 9
 intended to be bought the

56

May

Monday 25th 1835

Whilst waiting for the mail, Mr Perpe
 came down from Dahlonega, and showed
 me a letter he had received from Mr Caspidey
 the owner of Lot 957, in which he refuses to sell
 ten acres of his lot ^{for} \$500. Mr Perpe has gone down
 to Savannah, for the purpose of purchasing it, that he
 may be enabled to offer the Government ten acres for
 \$500. he may fail in obtaining it at a price which
 will justify him in taking \$500 - in which event my
 opinion will be that - ten acres on Caspidey's lot is
 worth more for the purposes of the mint than the same
 quantity on Worley's lot, for which you will observe
 he asks \$800 and therefore, that if you should be influenced
 by the order in which I have expressed my preferences, it will
 be better to give even more than \$500 for a lot on Caspidey's
 land, than to take Worley's (the next in order) at \$800

Respectfully Yours &c

Ignatius A. Lewis

Honble Levi Woodbury

No 947

Quarry of Granite

Scale of 10 Chains to an Inch

Representation of the Town of Dahlonega in Lumpkin County
 Georgia, The Figs A B C on Lot No 957. and Fig. D on 928.
 E on 949 and Fig. F on 985 are eminences. The lots were originally
 intended to be heavy chains square, but by inaccuracy of the Surveyors

11th May 1835.

W. A. Lewis

Scale of 10 Chains to an Inch

Representation of the Town of Dahlonega in Lumpkin County,
Georgia, The Fig. A B C on Lot N. 95. and Fig. D on 928.

Fig. A

Distance From a to e is 165 Feet
 " " b to f " 181 1/2 "
 " " c to g " 183 "
 " " d to h " 165 "



Fig. C

Distance From i to m is 304 Feet
 " " h to l " 270 "
 " " k to n " 313 1/2 "
 Distance From l to Town line is 168 1/2 "

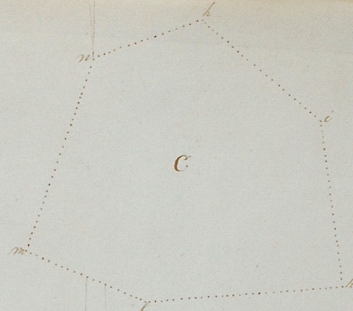
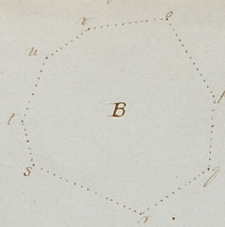


Fig. B.

Distance
 From o to r is 181 1/2 Feet
 " p to s " 180 "
 " q to t " 180 "
 " u to v " 181 1/2 "
 " w to x " 180 "

Distance From r to Town line is 255 Feet



Scale of 132 Feet to an Inch

Town line running East

Representation of the Areas of three eminences on Lot N. 951 and adjoining the Town of Oaklawn.

Taken 11th May 1855. By C. L. Thomas

N^o 927

N^o 951

N^o 928

N^o 950

Deepest Spring

Large Well

Large running Water

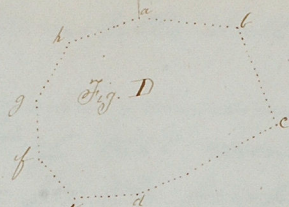
Fig. D

Distances From a to d is 165 Feet

" b to c " 222. "
 " c to f " 225. "
 " b to g " 203. "
 " h to e " 145. "
 " b to c " 100. "

From c to town line is 40. "

" a to Spring is 127 "



Scale of 132 Feet to an Inch

Representation of the Area of an eminence on Lot N^o 928.
 adjoining the Town of Dahlbrogga.

Taken 11th May 1835 By C. Thomas

Sir

Gainsville, Hall Co. Geor. July 9th 1835

I received your communication dated the 2nd of June, on the 22nd of that month and have delayed my answer for the purpose of purchasing the site of the Mint at Dahlonega, and transmitting you the deed contemporaneously therewith, but have been unable yet to close a contract with Mr. Caspids, the owner of the three sites first in order of preference, and am unwilling to abandon all hope of procuring that lot as it is decidedly preferable to either of the others, and I am accordingly about to make one more effort to procure it, and believe I shall succeed, but shall probably be unable to apprise you of the result before the 25th instant. I should not have delayed a day in taking the next alternative, after Caspids' first refusal, had I not been assured that in fact no time would be lost, until you should be prepared to furnish me with the plans from the Director of the Mint, and to order the incipient measures necessary for erecting the buildings. In your last communication you state that "a communication has this day been addressed by the Department to the Director of the Mint relative to the plans of the buildings and materials, for the branch at Dahlonega, and as soon as a reply from Dr. Moore, shall be received, I will communicate further with you, upon the subject." I have supposed that you intended by pursuing this course, to supersede the necessity of any further

correspondence between the Director of the Mint and myself, on the subject of the plans, and, believed that time would thereby be saved, as the Department had intended from the first to inspect the plans, and make its own selection. I greatly regret the delay which seems to have arisen from Mr Moore's misapprehension of my purpose, in his first letter to me, dated the 16th of April, he promises "with as little delay as may be" to transmit "the requisite design and elevations of a building suitable for the branch mint, &c" to me, but in a postscript recommended me to visit the mint at Philadelphia, and however, I did not feel myself authorized to incur the expense of a visit, nor the hazard of a delay which might have been thereby occasioned. I took no notice of the suggestion, and expected the plans by mail, but not receiving them, I wrote to him again on the 21st of May. I received his answer dated the 1st of June, stating that he had omitted to send me the plans because he had expected to see me in Philadelphia, an expectation which was certainly not justified by the cause he assigned for it, which was my silence in regard to the proposed visit to Philadelphia. In his letter of the 1st of June he proposes many questions, which he states must be answered to enable him to have the plans he made out, no such difficulty, however, occurred to him, when he answered my first letter, and as the questions relate to the prices of work, materials &c at Dahlonega, it is obvious that the information sought, cannot be necessary to enable him to decide on the dimensions of the buildings, number of apartments, proportions &c, which alone was required of him, in furnishing a plan of a building suitable for the Branch Mint. It is true that I asked

for estimates of the probable cost of the building, and the relative cost of Brick and Stone, and also the cost of the machinery, this, however, I only asked for the information of the Department, that in your ultimate determination, in regard to the materials, and plans submitted, you might have data which should govern you in reference to the amount of money which would be expended, but never supposed that this would affect the dimensions, divisions and general outline of such a building as would be suitable for the accommodation of the branch Mint at Dahlonega, - it is also very evident, that no information which could be available in making the estimate, could be obtained in Dahlonega, - an obscure frontier village, with only a few rude, and unskilful workmen, whose prices could not govern in estimating the cost of a building, which would attract competitors for its erection from the principal cities in the Union. As I have supposed myself released from further correspondence with the Director of the Mint, on this subject, I did not answer Dr Moore's letter containing the inquiries referred to, & have expected to receive the plans, together with further instructions, &c from the Department.

The delay which has protracted the commencement of the building, has brought a good deal of odium on me personally, and I feel a very natural desire, that all cause of suspicion, should be removed as speedily as possible, especially as I am sure, that I have been in no way instrumental in occasioning the delay. I wrote to the Director of the Mint on the 6th of April last, asking in accordance with your instructions, for the plan of a building

suitable for the accomodation of the Mint at
Dahlonega, and I have not yet received it.
In regard to the expenditure of the money which
must pass through my hands in the transaction of
this business, I am ready to give security for its faith-
-ful appropriation, and it seems to me, necessary,
that some plan should be adopted, by which I may
receive and apply it, without being compelled, first,
personally to assume all the debts incurred, I have
not, as you are aware, received one cent of compensation,
although in giving up my time to the control of the
government, I have incurred both loss and expense, but
of this I do not complain, if I can be saved from
the necessity of pledging my personal credit for debts
incurred for the government. I should be gratified
to know that you are more satisfied with what
I have done in this business, and if I have erred
would gladly learn in what, and correct my
error if possible.

Respectfully yours &c &c

Honble Levi Woodbury

Samuel A. Linn

P.S. Please direct to me at Gainesville, Hall
Co. Georgia, as I have taken up my residence here,
temporarily, that I might be near to Dahlonega.

Received of Mr. Linn

\$100.00

July 9. 1835

July 9. 1835

July 16. 752. McLean

McK

time also enough will be sent to pay all
due to yourself on any Disbursement as
your compensation is to be paid on them

W



FREE

Public Service

Box

The Double Bottom Roadhouse

Secretary of the Savings

Washington City

mail

McK

time also enough will be sent to pay all
due to yourself on any disbursement as
your compensation is to be paid on them

W



FREE

Public Service

Box

The Double Bottom Roadhouse

Secretary of the Treasury

Washington City

mail

To the Genl.

Saklonega 9th July 30th 1835

Levi Woodbury

Secy. of the Treasury

Sir - It has been made our duty to explain to you the situation of the agent appointed to superintend the erection of the branch Mint at this place with a view of showing the utter hopelessness of any thing being done efficiently unless a more energetic person be employed - the Rev. V. A. Hew is labouring under permanent ill health from rupture of the lungs. This case seems hopeless & he appears conscious of it himself which makes it the more surprising that he should hold on with so much tenacity to an office which he as well as every person at all acquainted with his situation must clearly see he cannot properly fill. He is certainly ever so good - all energy appears to have left him & his business habits if he ever had any has certainly escaped. He appears very laudibly & we may say entirely devoted to the affairs of another & better world & should be left quietly to their contemplation - He has located himself at Gainesville 25 miles distant & has honoured us with a single visit on the 10th 11th & 12th of May last at the appointed within four or five days after the passage of the law it - & altho the appointment as relates to our interests has proved most unfortunate - yet we feel grateful to the Secy. for the promptitude displayed on his part so characteristic of his high standing as a faithful & correct public officer & altho our interests have sorely suffered we acquit him of all blame & tender him our sincere thanks for his good intentions towards us - Nevertheless we cannot but hope that some

business man on the spot (of whom there are several) or some
one who will give his constant & vigorous attention to
the business will be appointed to take charge of the
work & prosecute it to a speedy termination we are
the more solicitous on this subject as the proper season
for such business is fast passing away & the loss of a
season is pecuniary loss to this community of from 30
to \$50,000 Respectfully

So. Shaw
J. S. Singleton
Henry M. Clay
John Chalmers
Rich^d. S. Perse
G. L. Copua
A. B. Holt

In answer please address Col. Josiah Shaw
Dahlgren
Ga
D.

July 30. 1835.

Messrs. Shaw & Singleton & Co

Comp. by Ignatius A. Jew.

To the Honble

Levi Woodbury

Secy. of Treasury

Washington City

D. C.

Recd - 12 Aug -

S. 163 Aug 12
Wheat

Dahlonega Ga^a 30th July 1885

Due notice having been previously given

The Citizens of the Village & vicinity of Dahlonega in conjunction with a respectable portion of other persons engaged in the gold mining operations of Georgia convened this day for the purpose of taking into consideration a subject matter of deep interest to themselves as well as that of their fellow citizens engaged in the same business throughout the entire gold region of the state —

And upon motion Col. Josiah Shaw was called to the chair & Genl Henry M. Terrell appointed Secretary the object of the meeting being explained by the chair the following preamble and resolutions were introduced and unanimously adopted (To Wit)

Whereas it is believed to be the policy of all good governments to promote the prosperity & happiness of its citizens whenever the same can be done consistent with constitutional provisions & whereas from the extraordinary success in the developments of the rich mineral substances of our state & especially that of gold, the Congress of the U. S. (in order to save the various risks & expenses attendant on the transportation to a place of coinage passed a law at its last session establishing a branch of the U. S. Mint amidst our gold operations for the purpose of promoting the convenience of such of our enterprising fellow citizens as should embark into the hazardous business of gold mining & whereas sufficient time has elapsed

since the passage of said law to enable the officers of the government to make at least a beginning towards the accomplishment of said branch of the mint - To the contrary of which there has not as yet been the first thing done & for the last six ^{or eight} weeks we have heard nothing official upon the subject, while we are informed that both of the other branches of the mint are under contract & in a fair way to their completion - And whereas under our Constitutional right peaceably to assemble for the purposes of making a true representation of our grievances, we with one voice respectfully yet firmly remonstrate against our neglected rights from whatsoever source they may spring, The law makes it the duty of the director of the mint & Secretary of the treasury of the U. S. to carry into effect its provisions if they have been guilty of dereliction of duty it is our right & we will complain untill we are satisfied that there is no injustice intended towards us as the gold diggers of Georgia

To this end we most respectfully call upon the President of the United States (not only as the guardian of our liberties but of our private rights) to exercise his Constitutional powers in our behalf -

Therefore be it resolved that Joseph B. Singleton G. H. Cepma A. B. Holt Do. Shaw John Choice R. S. Perpe and H. M. Clay be constituted a committee for the purpose of transmitting to our venerable Chief Magistrate of the U. S. & such other officers of the government as they may deem proper, this evidence of our feelings with regard to our vested rights, and that said Committee be empowered from time to time to correspond with his excellency

the president of the M. S. upon any & all matters touching our interests so far as we are concerned in the establishment of that branch of the M. S. Mint intended for our benefit—

And be it further resolved that the Chairman and Secretary sign these our proceedings and that they be handed over to the committee for the purpose therein stated and the Meeting adjourned

Henry M. Terrell Secy.

P. Shaw Chairman

Dalhousie, Georgia, ^{N.C.} 30th July 1835.

To his Excellency Andrew Jackson
President of the U.S.

Respected Sir,

We the undersigned
Committee selected as you will see by
the enclosed proceedings of a public meeting
held this day for purposes therein contained,
beg leave now to enter upon the discharge
of our duties, by soliciting the aid of your
excellency, in a matter which we as Gold
miners feel a deep interest. We would
first respectfully call your attention to the
enclosed proceedings of the meeting under
whose instructions we now act, by which
you will readily discover our object. Com-
posing as we did a part of that meeting
we of course fully accord in all the feelings
& sentiments peculiar not only to that meeting
but we will say to the entire Gold region
of Georgia, and in behalf of whom we
earnestly beg that your excellency will

exercise the provisions of our excellent Com-
stitution so far as the same can be done
consistent with your own feelings of discretion
in our cause of Complaint. - It is very
evident that more than sufficient time
has elapsed since the passage of the law
alluded to, for the officers to have entered
upon the discharge of their duties, to the
contrary of which nothing has been done
save that of ascertaining the area &
prices of several situations around the
place designated by law, which was
done near three months ago, & since
which we have had nothing official
upon the subject. - To say the least
of it there is something mysterious &
inexplicable in the whole transaction
since the passage of the law creating
the Branch mint, so much so, that
we are at a loss to account for it
in any other way than to attribute it
to a total disregard of public duty
(so far as our just rights are concerned)
on the part of those whose business it
is to carry into execution the objects of

the law. - If any obstacles exist of which
we are not apprized, we will acknowledge
our error as soon as we can be advised
of the fact, as nothing is more foreign to
our purpose than to censure the innocent.
Therefore will your excellency be pleased to
cause an investigation of the subject matter
of our complaint, & if we have just ground
for the same, we pray the exercise of
your constitutional powers in our behalf.
& if there be none we would be grateful
to know it. - If in future it becomes
necessary to offer an apology for thus
obtruding ourselves upon your notice, we
tender our extreme solicitude in the mat-
ter. - Should your excellency favor us
with a reply to this our humble request
it will ever be viewed with grateful
acknowledgment, & placed among the
many official acts which has so promi-
nently secured the friendship & interests
of Georgia. - Very respectfully your obt
servts. -

Joseph. I. Singleton
G. H. Cepner
Henry M. Clay
John Choise

Com-
mitted

Josiah Shaw
A. B. Holt
Richd. Perce

Dahlohuaga Ga. ^{11 11.} 30th July 1835.

Due notice having been previously given,

The Citizens of the village & vicinity of Dahlohuaga in conjunction with a respectable portion of other persons engaged in the Gold-mining operations of Georgia, convened this day for the purpose of taking into consideration a subject matter of deep interest to themselves as well as that of their fellow Citizens engaged in the same business throughout the entire Gold region of the State.

And upon motion, Col Josiah Shaw or as called to the chair, & Genl Henry M Terrell appointed Secretary, the object of the meeting being explained by the chair, the following preamble & resolutions were introduced and unanimously adopted (To wit.)

Whereas it is believed to be the policy of all good governments to promote the prosperity & happiness of its Citizens whenever the same can be done consistent with Constitutional provisions, and whereas from the extraordinary success in the development of the rich mineral substances of our State, & especially that of Gold, the Congress of the US in order to save the various risks & expenses attendant on the transportation to a place of coinage, passed a law at its last session establishing a branch of the US mint amidst our Gold operations, for the purpose of

promoting the convenience of such of our
enterprising Citizens as should embark in the
hazardous business of Gold mining, and whereas
sufficient time has elapsed since the passage
of said law to enable the officers of the
government to make at least a beginning
towards the accomplishment of said branch
of the mind, To the contrary of which
there has not as yet ^{been} any thing done, & for
the last 6 or 8 weeks we have heard nothing
official upon the subject, while we are
informed that both of the other branches
of the mint established by the same law
are under contract & in a fair way to their
completion, and whereas under our Consti-
tutional rights peaceably to assemble for the
purpose of making a true representation
of our grievances, we, with one voice,
respectfully yet firmly remonstrate against
the neglect of our rights from whatever
source they may emanate. - The law
makes it the duty of the Director of the
Mint & the Secretary of the Treasury of
the US to carry into effect its provisions,
if they have been guilty of a dereliction
of duty, it is our right & our will complain
until we are satisfied that there is no
injustice intended towards us as the Gold

Slaves of Georgia.

To this end we most respectfully call upon the President of the U.S. not only as the Guardian of our liberties but of our private rights to exercise his Constitutional power in our behalf.

Therefore be it resolved that Joseph Singleton, G. W. Cepner, S. R. Holt, Isaiah Shaw, John Choise, R. S. Terrell & Henry M. Delany, be constituted a committee for the purpose of transmitting to our venerable Chief Magistrate of the U.S., and such other officers of the Government as they may deem proper this evidence of our feelings with regard to our vested rights & that said Committee be empowered from time to time to correspond with his Excellency the President of the U.S. upon any & all matters touching our interests so far as we are concerned in the establishment of that Branch of the U.S. Mint intended for our benefit.

And be it further resolved that the Chairman & Secretary sign these our proceedings & that they be handed over to the Committee for the purpose therein stated, & the meeting adjourned.

Henry M. Terrell
Secy

J. Shaw, Chairman

Three

Andrew Jackson
President of U. S.

Washington City
D. C.

W. H. Key

J. 171. Aug 19

copy sent to you
Aug 19 '35

W. H. Key

Return to the Secy
Story of President
he they come
in the shop
as seen or he
so, I know the
and if the agent
the money he had
but suggest to
the name to the
for information

July 26. 1835
Jo. Shaw & Co
Cmfrs in Dep. of State

Gainesville Geo. August 4th 1835-

Sir

Enclose you the deed from William
 Worley for ten acres including the tide numbered four
 in the statement I transmitted to you, Mr Kaspidey the
 owner of the three first preferred, refuses to sell either
 of them. I have promised Mr Worley, one thousand
 and fifty dollars for the lot as stated in my com-
 munication to you. There are several buildings
 on the lot, one of them a small dwelling house,
 concerning the disposition of which you must
 give some order. I hope the money will be
 transmitted immediately. The deed has been properly
 executed, and recorded. I also enclose to you

copy of the questions sent to me by Dr Moore
 and ~~the~~ answers addressed to Dr Patterson, con-
 taining the best information I could procure.
 You will now be able to determine whether
 this important business should have been delayed
 from the 1st of June until this time, & probably three
 weeks longer, for the purpose of obtaining these, the
 best answers I can give to the questions proposed.

I am respectfully
 Yours obt. Servt
 Amble Levi Wordburg

Amble Levi Wordburg

Dahlonega Ga July 5th 1835

To the Honble

Levi Woodbury
Secy of Treasury

*thought to be Aug 5
via post at N. Y.

Sir, The committee appointed by the
meeting of citizens at this place on Thursday
last concerning the branch Mint, think it right
to inform you that since that time the agent
has been here & purchased a site for the
buildings & departed next morning we are
gratified at this movement as far as it goes
when anything more will be done we are not
advised — It is quite probable that Mr. Jew will
resign if so we do hope that some person on
the spot will be appointed there are several
business men here and any one will attend
strictly to it on account of the interest we feel
in it the salary is not an object therefore
we do hope to be heard on the subject — we
understand that an individual from an
adjoining village has gone on for the purpose
of being appointed we sincerely pray he
may not succeed as our condition would

not be bettered
our extreme solicitude on this subject
must plead our apology for troubling you
so much

Very Respectfully
your Obedt Servt.

So. Shaw

Chairman Comtee.

Sir.

47.

August 7th 1835

I received your communication of the 2nd July, and the Plan and Elevation of the building designed for the use of the Branch Mint, at Savannah, on the night of the 11th Inst, and have sent out advertisements to "The Globe," in Washington, "The New York Journal of Commerce" and to two papers in each of the following places, viz. Athens, Augusta, Savannah, Milledgeville, and Columbus, in which I have appointed Tuesday, the 22^d day of September, next, for letting out the Contract for erecting the building. I do not know that the mode which I have adopted for completing this business is unexceptionable, it is, however, the best which I could devise.

I shall now be constrained to ask for minute specifications of the parts of the building, as I cannot, without knowing what was designed in the whole plan, be able to let out the Contract for its erection. I shall, therefore, by the next mail, address some questions to the Director of the Mint, and must request, that you will desire him to have the Answers sent to me immediately. I must request, also that you will transmit to me the form of a Bond, such as you desire may be taken, to secure the performance of the Contract. I shall find much difficulty in giving on a day for the completion of the building, and shall

be glad to receive your suggestions, or instructions
on that subject. Respectfully Your Obedient

Hon^{ble} Levi Woodbury

Signatus A. S. W.

P.S. This letter will be mailed in Athens
you will however please direct to me still
at Gainesville

Sir

Gainesville August 11th 1835

You will receive herewith a copy of the questions which I have this day addressed to the Director of the Mint, & I must request that you will urge an immediate answer, as I cannot otherwise let out the contract on the day specified in my advertisements. I must request you also to fix the maximum cost of the building. I have no authority under any instructions yet received, to do this. It seems to me probable that in adapting the plans sent on, to the site selected, that I shall be constrained to have a part of the surface of the hill pared off, or, to have the basement at the end of the central projection, several feet higher, than the base line on the front, this will perhaps add something to the cost, and I wish to know what discretion I have in such case. I am however persuaded that the actual cost of the whole building, will be less than the amount fixed in the estimate which you transmitted to me.

Hon^{ble} Levi WoodburyRespectfully Your Obedt^{serv}
 Signature A. Few

Sir.

H. G.

Gainesville, Hall Co. Geo. August 11th 1835

I have to request that answer to the questions which follow, may be made out, and transmitted to me, at as early a day as it may possibly be done. It is of the last importance that they reach me between the 15th and 18th of September. They relate to the plan of the building designed for the use of the Mint in Dahlonega, and unless they are answered, I cannot make the necessary specifications in the contract with the undertaker.

1st What is the intended depth of the Cellar? 2nd How is it to be floored, i.e. with Bricks, or sleepers and planks? 3rd How is the Cellar to be divided, i.e. into how many apartments, of what dimensions, and intended for what purposes? and how thick must the divisions walls be? 4th How thick must the Outer Cellar walls, and the foundation wall, be? 5th How thick is it designed that the stone basement should be, and how high must it extend above the surface? 6th How must the stone-water-table, around the building, be constructed, i.e. how wide, high, &c. &c. 7th Are there to be two stories in the building, exclusive of the Cellar? 8th What are the heights respectively of the pitch of each story, or, the distance from floor to ceiling, in each story? 9th What is the thickness of the outer, and of the division, walls in each story? 10th Are all the division walls to be of Brick, and if not, are any, and which? 11th How are the vaults to be constructed, & where? be minute and special in answering this question and the next. 12th How are the Fire-proof apartments to be constructed? 13th Are each of the small square apartments, in both stories, to be

Fire proof? 14th Are each of those adjoining them, in both stories, to be finished as vaults, and if not, why are the apartments on the second floor represented as precisely corresponding with the Fire proof apartments and vaults on the first floor? 15. Are there any special arrangements to be made for the furnaces? And if any, what? 16th Should they be embraced in the Contract for building the house, or put up separately? 17th What arrangements should be made in the building for the Steam Engine, should the floor be better supported, and of what material should it be made, &c. &c. 18th Of what order in Architecture will the Portico, or Peristyle, be, and of what order must the Cast-iron Columns be? 19th What must be the proportions of the Columns? 20th What should be the dimensions of the Doors and Windows? 21st Is it intended that the windows should have shutters, and what kind, if any? 22^d If the plan should have to be modified to bring the cost within the appropriation, in what way should the retrenchment be made? 23rd What will probably be the cost of the Machinery including the Steam Engine, and what probably the weight of the whole, that I may estimate the cost of transportation.

Please cause full answers to be made out and transmitted to me immediately, containing such specifications as will enable me to have the building erected in conformity with the views of those who devised its plan.

Dr R. M. Patterson

Respectfully your Obedt Servt
S. J. Fews
Commr for Branch Mint at Washington

Sir

Gainesville August 13th 1835

I must find my apology for the frequency of my communications to you, in the magnitude of the charge committed to me, and ⁱⁿ a desire to leave nothing undone, which the duties implied in the Commission, require to be performed.

I must request that you will inform me whether any part of the consideration money can be paid in advance to the Contractor, and if any what proportion, and in what way. Advances are often desired, and sometimes, doubtless, the progress of the work is facilitated, by making them.

I also have to request, that you will cause the Architect who drew the plan of the building, to make out a complete specification of all the work to be done in erecting the Edifice, with the dimensions, proportions &c, stating how the work shall be executed, and using the Techniques of the Art. Without such specification, I shall be liable to omit many things which ought to be inserted in the Bond, and to use terms in an erroneous sense, which may give a dangerous advantage to the Contractor. Please have the specifications made out, and forwarded to me immediately. The peculiarity of my situation, on a frontier of the State, will account for my seeking information, through the Department, which, in any large City I could obtain by personal inquiry from many persons.

Respectfully yours &c &c

Honble Levi Woodbury

Signatus A. Lewis

Sir

51.

Athens, Geo. August 29th 1835-

Received your communication of the
14th inst, this morning, and that dated the 8th inst,
on the 25th - to which I had not yet replied,
because I was trying to negotiate a Bill on
the Department for the money needed to pay
for the Land, in which I have not yet
succeeded. I now apprise you however that
I shall draw for \$1250, as the additional
\$200 will be needed to pay for advertisements,
surveyors fees, and other incidental expenses
already incurred, an account of which will
be transmitted as soon as I can procure the
ouchers, after payment. I acknowledged the
receipt of the Plan &c, by letter dated the 7th inst,
I have written twice since to the Department,
which communications, I hope, have been
received and answered. You will please
address your communications to me
hereafter in "Covington, Newton County
Georgia"

Respectfully your
Obedt Servant

W Bluntcock Young Esq
Acty Secy Treasur

Quentin T. Lewis

Received in letter from recd. & answerd
note the plan to write to him. W

Sir

Cornington, Newton Co. Geo. Sept 8th, 1835

I received last night, your communications of the 19th and 20th of August, accompanied by the Resolutions and Memorial, from Dahlonega, and the Blank Bond and Article of Agreement signed for the contractor, and also your acknowledgement of the receipt of my letter of the 7th of August. I have prepared in answer to the charges implied in the Resolutions and Memorial from Dahlonega as far as I am personally concerned, and have addressed it to the President, which will be mailed when this letter is.

I hope you have received and answered my communications of the 11th & 12th of August. and trust that I shall be able in a short time to report that this important work under contract well guaranteed.

Respectfully, your Obedient

William Clark Young Esq
Acting Secretary of the Treasury

Ignatius A. Sewer

Sept. 9. 1835
J. A. Kelcey
Wm. H. Kelcey



Referred to
the Secretary
of the Treasury
A. S.

Send this
to Mr. Forsyth
for perusal
stating to him
that
when the
estimate was
made, it was
was prepared in
the best manner
practicable
without them
as they did not arrive
in order to
avoid any
longer delay

Excellency
American Jackson
President of the United States
Washington City
Recd
Public Service
Rm 21 Sept
H 89- McKean

To His Excellency Andrew Jackson, President of
the United States, of America.

Sir

Covington, Newton County, Georgia. Sept. 8th 1835

In conformity with your direction,
made known to me, by a letter from the Acting Secre-
tary of the Treasury, dated the 19th of August, I
submit to your Excellency the following statement
in justification of myself in reference to the delay
which has occurred in erecting the Edifice designed
for the Branch Mint at Dalton, Georgia in this State.

I received the first notice of my appointment to
the office of Commissioner on the 3rd day of April in
communication from the Secretary of the Treasury
dated the 13th of March, in which I was instructed to
apply to Dr. Moore, then Director of the Mints in
Philadelphia, for a plan of such building as might
be suitable for the Branch Mint, and after receiving
it, was directed to transmit it to the Treasury
Department; I was also directed to proceed to Dal-
ton, Georgia and select a site for the Mint, and report
to the Department, the price, and my own opinion in
regard to the location &c. I replied to this communica-
tion by the return of Mail on the 4th April, accepted
the appointment, and suggested the propriety of giving
early notice to Contractors, that they might be invited
from the principal Cities, to propose for the contract,
and also asked for more specific instructions in

my future proceedings. I wrote to Dr Moore the Director of the Mint on the 6th of April, and requested him to have a plan prepared by some competent Architect, and transmit it to me immediately, he replied to my letter on the 16th of April, and promised, with "as little delay as may be" to "procure the requisite design, and elevation" of a suitable building, and forward them to me; I received this letter on the 29th of April, and waited until the 6th of May, expecting to receive the plan, before I visited Dahlonega for the purpose of selecting a site; I did not receive it, and having made my examinations, I returned to Athens, and waited until the 21st May, when being still disappointed in receiving the plan, I again wrote to Dr Moore and urged him to transmit to me the Plan, or apprise me of the cause of the delay, and stated that even then, the persons interested in mining operations in and about Dahlonega, were becoming dissatisfied with the tardy movements in getting the mint into operation; I wrote also to the Secretary of the Treasury on the 23rd of May, and transmitted my report in regard to the sites examined; I had delayed several days, for hope that I might receive the plan from Dr Moore, and transmit both that and my report on the site, to the Secretary together, for my instructions required me to ~~submit~~ ^{send} the Plan to the Department for its Approval, and I was informed by the Secretary, in a letter dated the 13th April, that after

I had reported on the site, and transmitted the Plan received from the Director of the Mint, to him, that then, I should receive instructions as to my subsequent duties. I therefore in my letter of the 23rd May informed the Secretary that I had not yet received the Plan, and repeats to him, the reasons stated to Dr Moore, so that all convenient haste should be used in completing this business. I received a letter from the Secretary of the Treasury, dated the 2nd of June, in which is the following paragraph, which will corroborate my foregoing assertion, and afford some intimation of the solicitude which I both felt, and expressed, for the prompt, and speedy performance of the duties imposed by my appointment; (extract) "Your letter dated the 23rd instant has been received, and a communication has this day, been addressed by the Department to the Director of the Mint relative to the plans &c of the building materials &c for the branch at Dahlonega and, as soon as a reply shall be received from Dr Moore I will communicate further with you on the subject, and no effort will be spared by the Department to have the work completed at as early a period, as the nature of the case, and the public interests will permit." I received also from Dr Moore a letter dated the 1st of June, imputing his omission in sending the Plan, to a belief that I was on my way to visit Philadelphia, (although nothing which I ever said, or did in reference to this matter, could be construed

into the slightest intimation of such ^a purpose, on my part, and then proposing certain questions, the answers to which, he asserted, must be furnished, before a Plan could be drafted; I was greatly surprised at this, because in his letter of the 16th of April he ~~promised~~ promised to forward the Plan immediately, without asking any questions concerning price of work ~~at~~ at Dahlonega, and because I could not believe that the prices of work there, were correct data, on which to base the estimate of the cost of the building; and because, it evidently had not before appeared to him to be necessary, nor had seemed so to myself, nor to others with whom I conversed, to have any such information before the dimensions, elevation, and ground plan of a suitable building, could be drawn. - I did not reply to his questions, therefore for two reasons, first, because I expected to receive from the Secretary of the Treasury, the plan, & instructions without any other delay, such as would arise from farther correspondence with the Director of the Mint, and that expectation I grounded on the paragraph in his letter of the 2nd of June, which I have before quoted, and on my representations, to which that paragraph was an answer, and secondly, I did believe that the answer, if used as material, in forming the estimate, would be more than useless, and even productive of injury.

The first reason however, would alone have pre-
 sented me from answering the question, and but for
 the expectation which I entertained, as therein stated,
 I should have replied immediately to Dr Moore. I
 waited however in painful suspense, until the
 9th of July, when I again wrote to the Secretary
 of the Treasury, and stated that I had been expecting
 the Plans from the Department in conformity with
 the promise which Esquivel had implied in his letter
 dated the 2nd of June. I also again spoke of the dis- content
 which prevailed, caused by the delay, and complained of
 the manner in which I was personally affected by it,
 and I may say, that in effect, and as I designed, I remon-
 strated because of the former delay, and urged a speedy,
 and efficient attention to the business: to this letter
 I received a reply dated the 18th of July, directing me to
 reply to Dr Moore's questions, this letter I received on the
 19th of July, and immediately proceeded to Saltillo, ^{collected} and
 what information I could obtain, and answered the
 questions in a letter to Dr Patterson (the present Director
 of the Mint) on the 4th August, and on the same
 night, viz 4th of August, I received a plan of
 the building, and estimates, from the Secretary
 of the Treasury. It must occur to your Excellency
 to enquire why the Plans which was sent to
 me on the 27th July, (received by me on the 4th August)
 might not have been sent as well in the
 month of April - I trust also your

Excellency will perceive that throughout I have acted in obedience to my instructions, and I think I may safely challenge a scrutiny on that subject. I could do nothing, I had neither a plan of a building nor authority to obtain one, in any other way than through the Director of the Mint, who neglected to furnish me with it. From the commencement I urged, haste and prompt attention to the business, and whilst I experienced a painful anxiety which was often expressed to those with whom I conversed, I sustained pecuniary loss, because my compensation is only a commission on actual expenditure under my supervision, & yet my time was obliged to be subjected to the exigencies of this business so as to preclude me from engaging in any other occupation. Should your Excellency require proof of the allegations which I have made, it will be found in the correspondence between the Secretary of the Treasury, the Director of the Mint, & myself, copies of which I can furnish if required to do so.

Immediately after receiving the Plan. No. on the 7th of August I advertised for proposals, and appointed the 22nd of this month (September) for receiving proposals, and closing the contract; the intervening time was indispensably necessary to allow the notice to be seen by those who might desire to offer for the contract in distant places, & to enable me to obtain all the information necessary previous to the preparation of the specifications, in the

contract. It is not my purpose to charge any one,
with the delay which has arisen in the management of
this business, nor do I. I am alone concerned in
justifying myself, and I am happy in having this
opportunity of submitting the facts in the case to your
excellency, believing, as I honestly do, that you will
render impartial justice to all concerned, and it is,
indeed, and shall be, my prayer, that God will bless
the Ruler of his people.

Respectfully your ^{ob} servant

His Excellency Andrew Jackson
President of the United States

Ignatius A. Sew

Commissioner of the Branch
Mint at Dahlonega Georgia

Corington, Newton County, Georgia
September 8th 1835

Sir

54.
Dahlgren September 22nd 1833rd

I have just completed the contract for the erection of the Edifice designed for the Branch Mint to be located in this place, for the sum of Thirty three thousand, four hundred and fifty dollars, which is less, by two hundred and sixty three dollars than the estimate made by the Architect. The contract was taken by Mr Benj^m Towns and is secured by Article of Agreement, and Bond in twice the amount of the consideration money, to which Col. J^m A Cobb and Dr James Tinsley of Athens Geo. are securities, and which I will transmit to you as soon as I can have copies made of them, and of the Plans & Elevation which make a part of the Article of Agreement. Will you desire that the Plans be transmitted by you in the Tin case shall be returned in the same manner, or shall I have the scale reduced, and attach it to the copy of the Article of Agreement transmitted to the Department? - triplicates of the Article will be signed by the Contractor & myself. The day fixed for the completion of the Building, is the twenty second of March 1837, the earliest day which the Contractor will consent to appoint, and allowing, probably, no more time than is indispensable. There was a fair, and equal competition, between eight respectable men, who severally proposed for the contract. I shall write again as soon as I can have the drafts of the Plan & Elevation made. Please direct to me in "Corington, Newton County, Georgia"

Respectfully yours obt servt

Hon. Levi Woodbury

Signature of Sew

Sir

Cornington September 28th 1835

On my way to Dahlonega, I received, on the 19th Inst. in Gainesville, a communication from Mr McClintock, Young postmarked the 25th August, in which he suggested to me, to add to my first advertisement, that "all persons inclined to offer proposals, could have at all times, before the day appointed for deciding on the offers, an opportunity of examining the plan &c" You will perceive that I did not receive the communication until the 19th Inst only two days before, I had appointed to present the plans and specifications to those who might attend for the purpose of offering proposals at Dahlonega, to have delayed setting out the contract there for the purpose of inserting such an advertisement, and to have sent back those who came, most of them from a considerable distance, although content with the time allowed them and the plan proposed, would evidently have been unnecessarily delaying the work, and doing injustice to those who attended for the purpose of presenting proposals; If I had received the communication in time I have informed all who might have seen the first advertisement, I should certainly have followed the suggestion, although I do not believe it to have been necessary, for those who desired to know more than they saw stated in the first advertisement, earlier than the time stated, would, without suggesting it, have pursued that course, as some did, but indeed if the letter mailed on the 25th had reached me in the usual time, it would have been too late to have counteracted the effect of the first advertisement, ^{even} if I had protracted the time, for that purpose, for I should not have gotten the advertisement into the newspapers before the 15th of Sept, & many of those who offered for the contract would not have seen it before they set out for Dahlonega. You will remember that when you sent me the plan, it was not accompanied by any specification, nor did you state that any, would be furnished to me, and I was left to pursue one of three courses viz. either to delay advertising until I could receive the specifications, & be prepared to answer any questions in regard to them, or to

advertise immediately and protract the time to a more distant
day, and allowing myself time to ask questions & receive an-
swers concerning the details of the work, to specify a time in two
the advertisements, after which I would furnish the informa-
tion which might be desired, or to pursue that plan which St. C.
I did, and appoint a day on which I would exhibit the
plan & elevations, specifications, terms &c. & give all the information near
which I could procure that might be valuable to contractors, &
then allow them a sufficient time to make out their
estimates & hand in their proposals; the latter plan had several
considerations which recommended it to my adoption, - it would not
require me to delay any longer time for the purpose of receiving
specifications, it would enable contractors to examine the town and its
neighbourhood, and judge for themselves of the probable facilities in the
obtaining the necessary materials, & their cost &c. and consequently I
believed (as I am almost sure in the result, it did) would be
a means of lessening their estimates, and procuring the contract
for a reasonable sum, - and again it would give opportunity
for immediately securing the contract by the proper article
of agreement & bond, - in the absence of all instructions upon
the subject, I believed that the best plan, and pursued it. & to
the result you now know & I hope it will satisfy you that I
have not greatly erred. I enquired of you what time I
should fix for the completion of the building, in my letter
of the 7th of August, but to that enquiry never received
any reply, I was therefore constrained to exercise my own
judgement on the matter, in doing which I fixed in my
own purpose a limit beyond which it must not go, but
required each of the applicants to state the time when he would
complete the building, with the understanding that if it went
beyond the time which I had settled on in my own mind, that it could
not be accepted, - The time fixed, however, by the lowest bidder
was not beyond that limit, for I believed that as two winters
intervened of the first of which will soon commence among the
mountains of Lumbria County, it would require 18 months to finish the
work without injuring it by working in improper weather, in which

On Monday the 21st inst, eight respectable men met me at Dahlonega
to offer proposals for erecting the Mint, two from Columbus Georgia
two from Athens Geo. One from Athens in Tennessee who has erected
some of the principal public edifices in that state, one I think from
N. Carolina, a gentleman who has built 18 of the best Court
Houses in this State, and Capt. Gray an opulent miner living
near Dahlonega, and a partner of Mr Jarvis Carter, in the
gold-mining business. All these professed to be fully satisfied
with the information imparted, and the course pursued, and
when I stated to them on Monday, that a longer time than that
now fixed on, for making their estimates and delivering their pro-
posals, would be allowed them if they desired it, no one asked
for it, and several remarked that it was more than sufficient for
the purpose. The competition was an equal and honorable one &
I believe all were satisfied that it was, so I content with what
was done, Mr Towns the Contractor is reported to be a skilful
Architect & a very respectable, honest man, & Dr James Tinsley of
Athens, who is interested with him, is a man of science, of great
energy, and one who has also some practical acquaintance with
architecture. On returning to this place Saturday night the
26th inst I found your letter of the 13th inst. informing me of the
application of Mr Jarvis Carter &c. As the contract has been
let under the circumstances before stated, it is unnecessary to
say any thing more in relation to that matter, than that
Mr Jarvis Carter knew as well perhaps as any other man
in Georgia, how & where to have addressed me, to have obtained
the information he says he wished, he knew where a letter would
reach me, & he knew that if he had called on me, & inquired
it was easy for him to have done, he might have seen
the plans & elevation. but I never received a line from him, nor
heard a word of his desiring to offer for the contract, until I was, told three
days before the time fixed for letting it out, that he had taken the liberty
of making some unjustifiable insinuations concerning my course in this
business, & had complained to the Treasury Department. I must think it
to say more concerning him unless he has made specific charges
in which event I am prepared to answer for all my acting & doings

in this matter. I could not have guessed at Mr. Gaster's purpose to offer for the contract, even if I had been disposed to anticipate his wishes, & send him specifications ~~to~~ before he asked for them. but had I known his intentions I certainly should have given him no advantages in this business ~~other than all other~~ other who might have desired to propose for the building. I received here also a communication from you dated the 10th Inst purporting to be in reply to one from one of the 4th Inst. I presume this was intended for the Commissioners of the North Carolina Branch, as I did not write to you on the 4th Inst, nor since the 4th of August on the subject of the lot purchased for the mint, to which your remarks are directed in the communication dated the 10th September.

I am respectfully your
Obedt Servt
Signating A. Hew

Hon^{ble} Levi Woodbury

Sept. 28. 1835-

J. A. Jew

The Mint in J. A.

Refer to me. an

The two plans marked

4 when by his assistant

It will be taken

conflict W

So be completed on or before
the 22nd of March 1837.

Oct-6.

Sir

56.
Cornington Oct 10th 1833-

I received your communication dated the 30th September this morning, and will report to you immediately after the first of November in relation to the erection of the building designed for the branch of the Mint, and also ~~will~~ furnish an estimate of what will probably be done during the present year. I hope you have long since received my letters of the 22nd & 28th Ultims. which will have made you acquainted with the progress of my commission up to that time.

Very Respectfully Your
Oft Serv^t
Squatin A. Leav

The Hon^{ble} Levi Woodbury

Sir

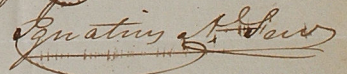
Livingston Oct^r 23rd 1835

I have received your communication dated the 13th Inst, and also the Treasury warrant for \$1500, which I have acknowledged in the form transmitted to me by Mr Campbell, the Treasurer.

I shall not fail to urge the Contractor to complete the edifice designed for the Mint, as soon as it can be done, and have a hope that it will be finished before the time fixed by our agreement, but I cannot encourage the expectation that it can be completed in the Autumn of 1836, as all the materials are to be provided, and nothing can be done towards the making of bricks before the next Spring. There is yet, however, reason to believe that it may be accomplished early in the winter of 1836 & 1837.

I am not satisfied that the lots which I mentioned to you are indispensable in opening a proper front to the edifice, and if they are not needed, shall not purchase them. I think the houses on the lot should be removed, and shall sell one, & have the other removed to another site on the lot as authorized by you.

Humble Levi Woodbury

Very respectfully your Obedt Serv^t

 Ignatius J. Shaw

Sir

Leorington Decem^r 7th 1833—

I received your communication dated the 18th Nov^r by the last mail, and with it the Plans & Elevation referred to in it, and shall immediately consult with the Contractor in regard to the alterations proposed. A provision was made in the Article of Agreement, allowing any alterations which ^{might} be afterwards deemed expedient to be made. The diminution in the number of groined arches will of course reduce the cost something.

I shall advise you of what may be done immediately thereafter.

Respectfully your Obedt^t

Ignatius A. Davis

Hon. Levi Woodbury

C. I. J.
Apr

59.

Macon Georgia Jan 23rd 1836

I received your communication dated the 14th Instant, yesterday, and will pursue the directions therein given in reference to Dr Linsley's account.

A Steam Engine of six horse power, has been offered to me in Oaklonega for \$1000. if it is of sufficient power, and of good construction, it would be advisable to purchase it for the use of the mint, as the price is far below what a new one would cost.

Should there be occasion to communicate with me during the month of February please address me in "Columbus, Georgia". I am respectfully

Your Obedt Serv^t
Ignatius A. Serv

The Hon^{ble} Levi Woodbury

Adygrapher for him, that no mention
of money can be made by
him, until he consults the Director
of the mint at Philad by letter
& has his sanction W

May be completed

W

C17
 Sir
 Columbus, Geor. Feb 27th 1836

I wrote to you on the 26th Inst, and stated that I should probably require about \$3000. for the purpose of making a payment on the 1st day of April, to Mr. Brown the Contractor for erecting the Branch Mint at Dahlonega. I have since received a letter from him, in which he states that he believes he will be entitled to eight or ten thousand dollars at ^{that} time, but he founds his opinion on the value of the materials which he will have prepared by that day, and not on the value of the work actually done, in this opinion I do not agree with him, and we must refer the matter to your judgment, should you determine to pay the value of the materials prepared, but not put up, by the first day of April, the Treasurers Warrant should be drawn for at least eight thousand dollars, - if, on the other hand, after examining the article of Agreement, you should concur with me in believing that he is entitled to pay only for the work actually done, the amount required will be \$3000 or perhaps a little more judging from the last information received in regard to the progress of the work.

I am respectfully your obt Servt

Hon^{ble} Levi Woodbury

Samuel A. Sew.
 Comm^r Branch Mint

Exam^d report
 W
 March 1.

may be compared

61.

House of Rep. April 8, 1836.

647

Hon. Levi Woodbury,

Sir,

For the information
of one of my constituents who feels
particularly interested, I have the honor
to enquire whether the office of
Commissioner or Superintendent of
the Branch Mint at Dahlonega,
Georgia, has been filled, & if
not, at what time the selec-
tion will probably be made.

With great respect
your obt. serv.

C. C. Haynes

Advised by inform him that none of the officers
of the Branch Mint will probably be
appointed till the next session of Congress
by which time it is hoped the building of machinery
may be completed.

Sir

Col.

Columbus Georgia. April 26th 1836

On the 13th Inst. I paid Mr. Towns the Contractor
for erecting the Branch Mint at Dahlonega, the sum of seventeen
hundred dollars, as the first instalment demanded by him according
his contract, ^{his receipt} for which I enclose to you herein, ~~in a bill~~ -
I paid him for the amount of work actually done & finished,
agreeably to the rate of prices fixed in the estimate which accom-
panied his proposals for the contract. - Up to the day stated, the
work completed was about two thirds of the rubble-work of
the foundations, and the digging out the cellar, but they had pre-
pared most of the materials necessary to carry up the building above
the principal story, and this they expect to have done by the first
week in June. There will then be due to the Contractor about
nine thousand five hundred dollars, for which provision must be
made, as he requires another payment to be made between that
time and the 15th of June - Thirteen hundred dollars of the amount
not transmitted to me by warrant remained after deducting the
fore-mentioned payment; - of this sum however, I have had to pay
Mr. Strickland bill of \$100 for the Plan of the Edifice, and shall
have to pay Dr. Sinsleys account amounting to a few dollars more than
200. which will leave a balance of not quite one thousand
in my hands - the warrant therefore should be for about Eight
thousand five hundred dollars, and I would prefer that three
warrants (dividing the sum among them) should be drawn, as
that would probably facilitate me in obtaining the money for them,
- Banks with which I must negotiate, generally prefer that the
warrants should be made payable in New York or Charleston.
I have hitherto obtained the money without paying any premium
expect still to do so, if no rule of the Department is violated
thereby, I hope the warrants will be made payable in one of the
cities named. It is of course desirable that I should avoid the

risque of transporting large sums of money, as well as the expense which would be incurred by presenting the Warrants myself, - please send the Warrants to me in this place, as soon as that may be done, as it is my present purpose to endeavour to obtain the money from the Bank in Athens, which I can not ascertain until I have learned where the Warrants will be payable.

I shall in a few days transmit to you all my Accounts & Vouchers up to this day - & shall then direct your attention to the fact, that the Contract now made, including that for the Machinery, & the incidental expenses incurred, exclusive of the Commissioners Compensation, will overgo the appropriations made for erecting the Branch Mint at Dahlonega, requiring a few hundred dollars more than \$50,000 the sum appropriated.

Very respectfully Your Obedt Servt

Ignatius A. Lewis
Commiss^r

Hon. Levi Woodbury
Secretary of the Treasury

Sir 699

Columbus, Georgia, May 25th 1836

I wrote to you on the 26th of April, enclosing a duplicate receipt from the Contractor at Dahlonega for \$1700, and requesting that warrants might be transmitted to me for about \$8500, for the purpose of making the second payment, about the first week in June, that being the time fixed by the Contractor; to this communication I have not received any answer, and am consequently uncertain whether you have received it. — I promised in my letter of the 26th April, to transmit to you in a few days, my account & vouchers up to that time; I have been prevented from doing so, by the absence of the family, with which I had deposited my papers. They left home & went into the interior as soon as the Indian War broke out, & I have not been able to obtain them until a few days since. I now send you herewith a statement marked (A) of the whole ^{expense} incurred, and ascertained, in erecting the Branch Mint at Dahlonega, and my accounts, marked (B) and (C) stating the amount of money, received and paid out, and the amount of accounts now due and not paid, because not presented, and in a separate envelope, duplicate receipts for the accounts paid, except Mr Strickland's which has not been received.

If you have not yet sent the Warrants, directed to this place, as requested in my letter of the 26th April, be pleased without delay to transmit Warrants for Eight thousand five hundred dollars, payable in Augusta or Savannah, directed to me in Athens, Georgia, as I have made arrangements to obtain ^{the} cash from the Bank in that town. The Contractor requires the second payment to be made the first week in June, & you know it is his privilege to fix the time. I have just received the plans for fixing the machinery, indorsed by yourself, but without any communication accompanying them.

Honble Levi Woodbury
Secy Treasury

Respectfully, your Obedt Servant
attn to the
W
Signatur, A. Serr
Comm^r Branch Mint

611.
Covington, Georgia September 29th 1836

Accompanying this communication you will receive Vouchers for payments made to the Contractor for erecting the Branch Mint at Dahlonega, for payments made to Dr Simley, Mr Strickland and Mr Thomas the Surveyor. Dr Simleys Account was reduced from the amount stated in my exhibit to you viz \$249, to \$220. Mr Towns' Receipt is for \$7000. paid to him on the 19th Instant - The unusual quantity of rain which has fallen since the month of April, has greatly retarded the progress of the Building, and the amount of work actually done, since the first payment was made in April could not be estimated at more than \$7000. I paid Mr Towns \$2000 on the 6th of July, but as the work then finished was so far short of the estimate made by him when he fixed the time of the second payment, I divided the second payment and reserved the balance until the 19th Instant when I paid him \$3000 and took his receipt for the whole making \$7000 paid to him on the second instalment. The estimates made, and by which the payments have been regulated, are stated in a sheet enclosed herewith. Mr Strickland's Account, & the Surveyors, were included in the exhibit heretofore made, but their receipts were not then sent, because not then obtained, they are now forwarded.

The Edifice intended for the Branch Mint at Dahlonega, cannot be prepared to receive the Machinery by the first of January next. I hope the Roof may be gotten on by that time, but I am very sure that it cannot be farther advanced. The delay, occasioned by continued, heavy rains

for the last five months, will inevitably prevent the Contractors from preparing the Building for the Machinery in time for the Mint to go into operation, sooner than the day fixed in the Article of Agreement viz 22nd March 1837, and from the providential interruption which has already occurred, they may be expected to claim the two months allowed for such contingencies, in the Bond, before the entire completion of the Edifice.

Be pleased to address your communications to me in "Columbus Georgia."

Very Respectfully Your Obedt Servt
Signatus A. Lee

Honble Levi Woodbury
Secretary of the Treasury

Adm to Hm
W

Sir

Athens Geo. Decem^r 10th 1835-

This communication will be delivered to you by Dr James Tinsley, who is interested with Mr Towers in the contract for erecting the Branch Mint at Dahlonega.

At the suggestion of the Director of the Mint, I have requested Dr Tinsley (as one of the Contractors) to visit the Mint in Philadelphia, that he might by personal inspection, become acquainted with the peculiar construction of the edifice, and be thereby better enabled to prepare the building in Dahlonega for the purpose intended, and have agreed to defray the necessary expenses of his journey ^{& return} to Philadelphia, I must therefore request that you will give him a warrant on the Treasury for one hundred dollars for that purpose in advance, when he furnishes me with the Account & vouchers on his return, it will be settled accordingly.

The Plans & Specifications furnished to us, have been found very defective, and it is indispensable that they should be explained, and altered in some instances, I have written to the Director of the Mint requesting that he should consult with Dr Tinsley and agree on the alterations and additions which it may be necessary to make.

I am respectfully Your Obedt^l Serv^t
 Ignatius A. Hew

The Hon.^{ble} Levi Woodbury

Sir,

As chairman of a Select Committee
 appointed on the part of the Senate
 to enquire into the expediency of establishing
 a branch of the Mint at New Orleans,
 and also on the gold regions
 of the South, I should like to receive
 from you any information in your
 power in relation to the expense of
 such an establishment -

Very respectfully
 Yours, &c.
 Wm. W. Garrison

5th Feb 9. 1835

Philadelphia. Thursday 28th March 1835

I have the honor to transmit herewith a plan which we have at length agreed upon, for constructing a building for the Mint at the City of New Orleans, together with an estimate of the cost, of such building; the estimate is made at the prices of labor and materials in this City, at this time.

If the plan should be approved and adopted by you, its location is proposed to be on a piece or parcel of land, (nearly of the dimensions laid down) belonging to the United States, situated at the head of Canal Street, opposite to the Custom House, fronting to the River Mississippi, and surrounded on all sides by Streets.

This location is confidently believed will embrace more advantages and convenience than any other site, that could be obtained in the City. First, as to the Ground itself, it is high and dry, and will afford a good and solid foundation. Secondly; it is surrounded by Streets on all sides, which will afford great security to the buildings against fire, and give the means of an easy and free access from either side, and at the same time, from its peculiar construction, can be well ventilated, which is an important consideration in a climate like that of Louisiana and Thirdly. Its location combines the advantages of being, nearly equal in distance from all of our Banks, directly in the Center of business, and equally convenient for commercial purposes, either by sea, or by way of the River Mississippi.

The delay in transmitting this plan has been occasioned by a disposition manifested by all the Officers of the Mint at this place, to make it as perfect as possible, all the combinations and divisions of the different Apartments have been duly considered, and happily arranged on principle, it is believed, combining as many convenience and advantages, as the nature of such an extensive establishment can admit of,

It must however, be observed, that the estimated cost to erect the contemplated building, very far exceeds that, which I had made; the fact is, I had no knowledge, till after combining the different apartments together, of the immense number necessary to carry on such an establishment,

In the division of the necessary and indispensable Apartments, as well as to the combination of the whole, the greatest regard, as to economy has not been lost sight of, this as far as could be extended I have always had in view.

Under the view presented, I would most respectfully beg leave to suggest that, proposals should be invited by public advertisement, to erect the contemplated building - This will lead to a competition, the result in all probability will be, that proposals will be received to erect the building for a much less sum, than the estimate made at this place,

With respect to the machinery necessary for the establishment at New Orleans, I would also most respectfully suggest that, it be made upon the principles of that now in operation at the Mint at this place, with such improvements as will be suggested to you, by the Director, Dent Moore, to whom, as well as to the other Officers of the institution I feel under many obligations for their friendly and polite attention, but more particularly so for the zeal and solicitude manifested, with a view of perfecting the establishment at New Orleans -

Taking a full view of the establishment and combining the different divisions of labor necessary to accomplish the object sought to be obtained, it will require a period of nearly twelve months, to put it into operation - The building can be erected before that time, but if an approximation the different combinations of machinery cannot be completed and put into operation much sooner,

I have the honor to be

With great respect, Sir,

Your Obedt Servant

Abraham Gordon Senr

26

The Honorable

Levi Woodbury

Secretary of the Treasury

Philadelphia 29th March 1835.

Sir

I have the honor to transmit herewith, "Specification and description of the Workmanship and Materials required in the building of the United States Mint, in the City of New Orleans," which has been prepared with great care by Mr. William Strickland of this City; during its preparation and when entering more minutely into the detail, it has been ascertained that many things could be dispensed with, which had entered into the Estimate, made as to the Cost of the building. Collectively they amount to about \$8,000, which will reduce the Estimate to about \$98,000.

It has been suggested by many well informed Mechanic in this place, but more particularly so by Mr. Strickland, that the Work would be much better done, if separate Contracts could be made, first for the Brick Work of all kind, together with plastering &c. secondly, all the Stone Work, and thirdly all Lumber and Carpenter Work &c; this is however, respectfully Submitted to your Consideration.

The information afforded, in the Specification herewith transmitted would, perhaps, save much trouble, particularly in the Treasury Department, if it was published and freely circulated at places where its probable proposal, would be made for the erection of the buildings, this is also, respectfully Submitted.

I leave here this morning at 5 O'Clock for New York, and will embark immediately after my arrival there, on board the Ship Satatoga bound for New Orleans, I have been ever since my arrival here much indisposed, at times compelled to keep to my room, I am convinced that I shall not recover my usual health till after my return to Louisiana.

I have the honor to be

With great regard and esteem

Your old servant

Washington D. C.

To

The Honorable—

Lewis Woodbury

Secretary of the Treasury

Amount to be drawn made by individuals to avoid the currency

New Orleans 26th June 1835

Sir

I have the honor to transmit herewith a Certificate Copy of a Deed of Conveyance made by the City of New Orleans to the United States of a Square of Ground, situated in front of the City, known as "Jackson Square" This Conveyance is made by the Municipal Authority of our City, for the only and express purpose of erecting thereon the Branch of the Mint of the United States Contemplated to be built in this place - I also transmit a Sketch of the plan of the City, with a view to show you the location of the ground thus conveyed, as also the dimensions thereof - This liberal donation, made by the City of New Orleans, to the government of the United States, is estimated to be worth \$500,000.

Under those circumstances, it is most respectfully submitted to your consideration, as well as to the consideration of the President of the United States, whether the building of the Mint contemplated to be erected in this City, should not to a considerable degree correspond to the liberal and patriotic views of the Corporation,

The Plan of the edifice, herewith submitted to your consideration, and adopted by you, will if carried into successful effect, be an ornament to the City, and correspond with the liberal donation made for that purpose,

But I am truly concerned to inform you, that the small proportions made by individuals to erect the building would be infinitely less than the estimate made by myself, as well

made by Mr. Thickland of Philadelphia - all the proposals which
have been received are herewith transmitted, and submitted to your
consideration; from these you will perceive, from the low lowest
offer adding thereto the amount of the Contract made at the
city of Philadelphia for the necessary Machinery) exceeds the
appropriation made by Congress, in the sum of about \$30,000 -

Under the State of things, it is also respectfully
submitted to your Consideration, whether the public interest would not
be promoted, to accept of the proposals of one of the lowest bidders,
and have the Edifice erected on the present plan, and apply at the
next Session of Congress for an additional appropriation for the
purpose of completing it, or to contract the building, by altering
the original plan and its form, so as bring the expensative within
the appropriation already made -

In either case, it is confidently believed, that a
sufficient portion of the building can be finished by the first day
- May next, as to get the institution under way, for the purpose
of commencing the Course of Gold by that time,

I have been considerably indisposed since my
return to the City, and it was not until the day before yesterday
that the Duty of Commerce was duly executed and properly
recorded -

I have the honor to be

With great respect, Sir

Your Obedt Servant

Robert Gordon Esq

The Honorable

John Woodbury

Secretary of the Treasury

New Orleans 25th August 1835,

Sir,

I have the honor to transmit herewith a certified copy of a contract, made and entered into on the 22^d Instant, with Messrs John Mitchell and Benjamin P. Fox of this city, for the purpose of building and erecting a Branch of the Mint of the United States, according to a plan of the contemplated edifice heretofore submitted to your approval, and authorised by an act of Congress passed at its last session.

You will perceive according to the stipulations of the contract, that one Wing of the building, together with the dwarf Wall and Iron railing to enclose the Square of ground on which the Mint is to be erected, is, for the present suspended. The remaining part of the edifice is to be erected, finished and delivered on or before the 15th day of May next, and the remaining part, so as to make it complete, is to be finished when thereunto required. That portion of the building, first to be erected, embraces the center, where the Engine, and principal part of the Machinery are to be erected, together with ^{the} apartments constructed for the coinage of Gold, and the necessary accommodation of the offices of the Mint, as also all the vaults. The remaining portion of the edifice, is that part intended for the coinage of Silver. This it is believed can be constructed and ready by the time the Machinery is finished and transported to this place: provided an additional appropriation is made at an early day at the approaching session of Congress.

On reference to the contract you will perceive, how the

payments are to be made and it is respectfully requested that you furnish me with funds to meet the same, regularly at the different stages of the building as it progresses.

Immediately after the contract was signed by the respective parties, the Contractors commenced the necessary preparations in order to begin forthwith, the excavation of the foundations, and to collect and transport to the place the different materials preparatory to the commencement of the building. It may therefore be confidently expected, that the Mint will be in readiness to commence the coinage of Gold by the time heretofore mentioned, to wit. - 15th May next, provided no unnecessary delay takes place in the construction of the Machinery and necessary appendages thereto.

With great regard and esteem

I have the honor to be, Sir,

your obt. Servant.

Martin Gordon Esq

To

The Honorable

Lord Widdow

Secretary of the Treasury,

As the receipt of the

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400

78
New Orleans 24th September 1835.

Sir,

Your Letter of the 4th Instant, in reply to mine of the 22nd August in which I transmitted a Certified Copy of the Contract entered into at this place for the building a Branch of the Mint of the United States I have had the honor to receive - and I most sincerely regret, that the omission of a trifling formality should have been the occasion of placing me in a very awkward and unpleasant situation. - By reference to the Contract you will perceive that it was utterly out of my power then, as it is now, to say at what particular periods the payments will be required to be made, this must depend on circumstances, to be regulated as the building progresses - to designate any particular sum "which will be required in the course of any coming month", is, from the nature of the Contract utterly impossible.

With a view to enable me to carry the Contract into effect, I transmit herewith a requisition for \$71,000 for the purpose of paying the four first installments as they may respectively become due. -

With great respect
I have the honor to be, Sir,
Your Obedient Servant,
Washington Gordon Secy

To
The Honorable
Levi Woodbury
Secretary of the Treasury

Anthony

4382,

72.

New Orleans 15th December 1836

Sir

Herewith I transmit a requisition for the Sum of Seventy one Thousand Dollars, to pay the last instalments on the Contract entered into with Messrs Mitchell & Fox, to build a branch of the Mint of the United States at this place, and permit me to request, that a Warrant for that amount may be remitted by the return, of the express mail.

With great respect

I have the honor to be, Sir,
your Obedt Servant
Martin Gordon Esq
Superintendent.

Attchd this
by

To the Honorable

Levi Woodbury.

Secretary of the Treasury.

New Orleans 15th Decemr 1836

Sir

The Sum of Seventy one Thousand Dollars & required, to pay Messrs Mitchell & Fox, the four last instalments, on a Contract for building a branch of the Mint of the United States at this place:

With great respect

I have the honor to be, Sir,
your Obedt Servant
Martin Gordon Esq
Superintendent.

To the Honorable

Levi Woodbury

Secretary of the Treasury

C19

18.

New Orleans 27th Decemr 1836

Sir

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 12th Inst, in which you request that I should inform you as soon as practicable of the progress made in the erection of the building for the Branch Mint at this place, also the time it may be calculated to be finished, together with the amount already expended thereon -

In obedience to the request, I transmit herewith a copy of a letter this day addressed to Genl Patterson, Director of the Mint of the United States at Philadelphia, which is confidently believed will contain all the information required -

In addition, I will beg leave to remark, that by the mail of tomorrow I will transmit an account of the Money Received and Expended, and if it be found correct, I have to request that you will consider any further Agency on my part as ceasing with the payment already due to the Contractors -

I had delayed making a requisition on you for the payments due under the Contract to the very last moment, in order to avoid the unjust and injurious imputation of having public money in my hands unexpended -

With great regard and esteem

I have the honor to be, Sir

your obt Servant

Abner Gordon, Secy
Commissioner -

To

The Honorable

Levi Woodbury

Secretary of the Treasury

Copy of a Letter, addressed to Genl Patterson, Director of the Mint of the United States at Philadelphia,

New Orleans 27th Decr 1836

Sir

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 18th Inst; It was received too late to be answered by the return of the Express mail -

In compliance with your request, to be furnished with a statement of the present condition of the building intended as a Branch of the Mint of the United States at this place, the probable time of completion of the part under contract &c &c I beg leave, Respectfully to make the following Statement -

The Center building and one of the Wings, are so far advanced, as to be nearly ready for the reception of the Machinery, but little if any delay will be experienced on its arrival in putting it up, indeed that part of the building intended to contain the Engine and the Machinery of the Mint cannot be completed till the whole is arranged and put up.

You will perceive in reference to the Contract a Certificate of which I had at a very early period transmitted to the Secretary of the Treasury, who

doubt have furnished you with a Copy) that the mashing and the whole of the building could not be finished for the sum appropriated by Congress, say \$250,000, consequently one of the Wings was excluded until the further order of Government, with a view to an additional appropriation for its completion, the part now finished, or nearly so, will be sufficient to go on with the operation of the Mint, upon a Confined Scale; I apprehend, however, that but a temporary inconvenience can be experienced by the officers of the Mint till the other Wing is finished, which will then make the Edifice complete, according to the plan approved by the Secretary of the Treasury; it must however, be observed, that the approval was confined, as respects the expenditure, to the appropriations made by Congress.

It will be further observed, that the Contract entered into, to complete the whole building amount to \$182,000. The cost of the Engine and Machinery of the Mint, was estimated at about \$50,000; under those circumstances it was considered to the interest of the Government, to go on, with only a part of the building, get the establishment into operation at an early a period as possible, and apply to Congress for a further appropriation, in order to make the establishment complete in all its parts. That part which is now nearly finished, will cost, under the Contract \$142,000. \$71,000 of that amount have already been paid to the Contractor, and I have, under date of the 15th Instant, made a requisition on the Secretary of the Treasury, for the further sum of \$71,000, with a view to complete the full payment of the Contract.

When the whole Edifice is completed, it will be conveniently calculated for the operation of the Mint, and the accommodation of all the officers, with the exception of the Superintendent. In the plan, and by its distribution of the different apartments, it was never intended that the Superintendent should be accommodated in the building. But if suitable accommodations can be conveniently appropriated, I know of no good cause why he should be excluded.

you will also see, by the Contract, that the wing of the building, suspended for the present, or till the further order of the Government, will cost \$40,000. This sum, together with about an equal amount, will be required to complete the Edifice in all its parts, and permit me, Respectfully to suggest the propriety of making an early application to Congress for an additional appropriation of about 75 to \$80,000, with a view, and for the purpose of completing the same,

On the arrival of the Ship John Scargent from Philadelphia with great satisfaction attend to the receipt of the different articles shipped on board of that vessel intended for the Mint at this place, and saw that they be carefully deposited in the building, and in the absence

of the Superintendent take special care of them, until his appointment is received
When they will, as a matter of course be delivered to him.

I will write by this mail to the Secretary of the Treasury, and
enclose him a copy of this communication, and will at the same time
request to be discharged from all further agency in this matter -

With great regard and Esteem.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

your Obedt Servant

(Signed) Martin J. Gordon

Secretary

To

R. M. Patterson Esq -

Director of the Mint of the
United States

Philadelphia

Respect Dear P. to

claim I repeat

what I mention

appt. if any

proper for

W

C. J.

New Orleans 29th Decem 1856

Sir

I have the honor to transmit herewith, an account of Money Received and Expended, as Commissioner to Superintend the creation of a Branch of the Mint of the United States in this City,

I have by the common mail of this day written you, and transmitted a like account accompanied with the proper vouchers, they being too voluminous to be sent by the Express Mail, upon their receipt you will be pleased to have the account adjusted, and if the balance therein stated to be due me, be conso't, be pleased to transmit that amount to me in a Warrant on one of the Deposit Banks in this City, which will then close all further agency on my part in this matter

With sentiments of great regard and Esteem

I have the honor to be, Sir,

your O^bd^t Servant

Washington Gordon Sen
Commissioner

Encl. into this & ref. ch
4

To

The Honorable
Levi Woodbury
Secretary of the Treasury.

Dr Martin Gordon Esqr Appointed by the Honorable Levi Woodbury
of the United States

The amount in a Warrant on the Metropolitan Bank, Washington	\$ 1000
" " " " Commercial Bank New Orleans	71000
Balance due M Gordon & Co. Commission	1015 25

W ^t .	876	1835 May 25	for	1000
"	1849	" Octo 7	-	71,000
"	4382	1836 Dec 27	-	71,000
				<u>143,000</u>

7301525

E E
New Orleans

Woodbury, Secretary of the Treasury, to Superintendent the Execution of a Branch of the United States in the City of New Orleans. In account with the Government of the United States

00			By this amount, paid W. H. Stockland for designing and		
00			drawing a plan of the Branch of the Mint		
15 25			of the United States at New Orleans	1	300
			" " " paid to Beals & Sons of Boston for printing proposals	2	42
			" " " " to Collector of the Rev. New Orleans	3	150
			" " " " of the Paymaster	4	87
			" " " " J. Crockett, Esq. Mayor of the forwarding		
1835			contract for building Mint	5	50
October 23			" " " " Architect's Estimate for building mint	6	17750
			" " " " " 2 ^d " "	7	17750
			" " " " " 3 ^d " "	8	17750
			" " " " " 4 th " "	9	17750
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E. G.

Dec 28th December 1836

By Balance due M. Gordon &

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